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S. Allen Nat.

Rev. W. Bringley, A.M.



A

T O U R
ROUND
N O R T H W A L E S ,

PERFORMED
During the Summer of 1798:

CONTAINING

Not only the Description and local History of the Country; but also a Sketch of the History of the Welsh Bards;

An ESSAY on the LANGUAGE;

Observations on the Manners and Customs; and the Habitats
of above 400 of the more rare Native Plants; intended as
a Guide to future Tourists.

By the Rev. W. BINGLEY, B.A. F.L.S.
OF ST. PETER'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

Illustrated with Views in Aquatinta by Alken.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

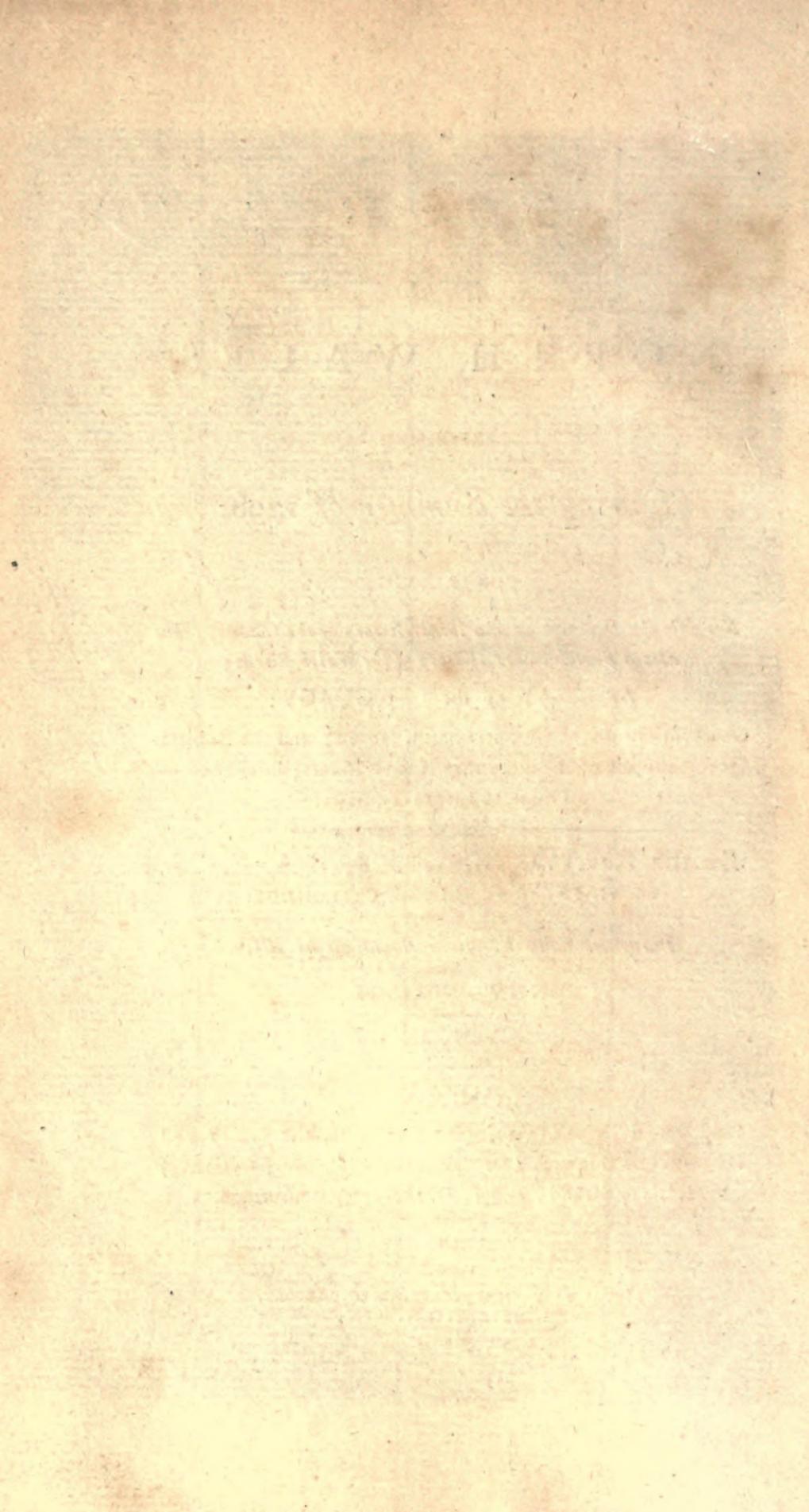
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A TOUR

TOUR

ROUND

NORTH-WALES.

CHAP. I.

FROM MONTGOMERY TO OSWESTRY—
WELSH POOL — TRADE — CHURCH—
POWYS CASTLE--POWISLAND--YSTRAT
MARCHEL ABBEY—BREIDDIN HILLS—
LLANYMYNECH—HILL—OFFA'S DYKE
—CASTLE OF CARREG HWVA—HOUSE OF
INDUSTRY--OSWESTRY--CRUEL DEATH
OF OSWALD KING OF NORTHUMBER-
LAND—CASTLE—CHARTERS—SIEGE—
DARING SURPRISE OF THE CASTLE—
OSWALD'S WILL AND LEGEND—LELAND
AND CHURCHYARD'S DESCRIPTION OF
OSWESTRY.—

LEAVING Montgomery, I went over a rich champaign country to Welsh Pool, passing on the left Powis Castle, the seat of the Earl of Powys. This is situated on the narrow ridge of a rock, about

a mile from Welsh Pool; and, for three or four miles of the road, formed a striking object of the scene.

The town of Welsh Pool is large and populous, and the chief streets are pretty uniform in their buildings. This place, from its vicinity to England, has assumed much more the appearance of an English, than a Welsh town; and the manners of the inhabitants are so completely English, that the language of their own country seems scarcely known here. An air of opulence unusual in Wales may be observed throughout the whole of the place, owing to the trade in Welsh manufactures which is here carried on to a great extent. It is chiefly reported to as the market for flannels, which are manufactured in the higher countries and sent from hence into England. The market day is Monday, and the Drapers of Shrewsbury attend regularly for the fake

sake of this commerce.* The Severn is navigable to within three quarters of a mile of the town, though upwards of two hundred miles from it's mouth in the Bristol channel. The church, apparently a modern building, is singularly situated at the bottom of a hill, and so low that the upper part of the churchyard is nearly on a level with it's roof. I was somewhat surprized at observing a few branches of Ivy that had penetrated through the roof of the choir and were permitted to hang entwined around each other, in a cylindrical form, upwards of eighteen feet long. Since the neatness of the place is not affected by them, their singularity has no doubt been the cause of their preservation.

* Mr. Pennant, in his *Tour through Wales*, Vol. II. p. 397. Says, that there are brought annually to Welsh Pool between 7 and 800,000 yards of Flannel, which are chiefly consumed in England. This was prior to 1781, for in that year the first edition of this work came out.

Powys Castle has been originally built of a reddish stone, but in order to keep it in a state of repair, this has of late years been so plastered over with a coat of red lime, that at this time very little of the stone is to be seen. This red coating gives the building so much the appearance of brick, that it was not till I almost touched it, that I was undeceived in supposing it such. The antique grandeur of the building, was completely destroyed, by the striking and harsh contrast betwixt the walls and the modern and newly painted sash windows.

The ascent to the castle is up a long and laborious flight of steps much out of repair when I was there; and the chief entrance is a gate-way betwixt two large round towers. The building is kept up as the habitation of Lord Powys, though he very rarely comes thither.

thither. The furniture of most of the rooms is in the antient stile of elegance, and in some of them the old and faded tapestry is yet left. In a detached building of more modern date than the castle, which was separated from it by fire, about fifty years ago, are several paintings, but a few of the collection that had been sent hither from England by Lord Clive, took my attention the most. In the main building is a small collection of antiques, some of which are supposed to be valuable.

The gardens, which have been laid out in the wretched French taste with parallel terraces, squared slopes, and water-works, were entirely out of repair from the owner's so seldom visiting this country. The prospects from hence are extensive, for the situation commands all the beautiful and spacious country on the east, intersected by the Severn and

the

the distant Breiddin hills, with much of the cultivated and well wooded country of Salop.

Leland and Camden* each speak of two castles here both included in the same walls. The words of the former are, “ Welschpole had two Lord’s Mar-
“ cher’s Castles with one wall, the Lord
“ Powys namid Greye, and the Lord
“ Dudley caullid Sutton ; but now the
“ Lord Powys hathe bothe in his hand.
“ The Welschpole (Castle) is in com-
“ pas almost as much as a little towne.
“ The Lord Dudley’s park is almost
“ fallen downe. The Lord Powys park
“ is neatly good.”

Whether these two castles were erected at the same or at different times, I have not been able to learn, nor what were their different names, for, except in the two authors above cited, I have seen

* Leland’s Itinerary and Camden’s Britannia.

no account of more than one castle at this place. This was anciently called *Pool Castle*, from its vicinity to the town of Welsh Pool and *Castle Coch*, the red castle, from the hue of the stone with which it was built. It's name of *Powys Castle*, which is more modern, it seems to have obtained from it's having been the chief place in that division of Wales called Powesland.

This castle and Mathraval* were the places of residence of the Princes of Powys and Powisland; for Wales was anciently divided into three principalities, North Wales or Gwynedd, South Wales and Powisland. The latter was a tract of land which, when entire, reached in a straight line from Broxton hills in Cheshire, southerly to Shrewf-

* Mathraval is nine or ten miles distant, not far from Meivod. The name is now only preserved by a Farm house built upon the site of the ancient *ca^le*, which is said to have occupied about two acres of ground.

bury;

bury ; from hence through the eastern limits of Montgomeryshire, comprehending all that county, part of Radnorshire and Brecknockshire; then turning Northward, it included part of Merionethshire, the whole of Denbighshire, except the Lordships of Denbigh and Ruthin, and from thence it went in a south easterly direction, taking in Molesdale, Hopedale, and Maelor in Flintshire.*

This division of Powisland Henry I. who had by conquest obtained it from the Welsh, gave about the year 1110 to Cadwgan ap Bleddyn ap Cynoyn, a renowned Briton, who began to erect a Castle with the intention of residing here, but before it was finished he was treacherously murdered by his nephew Madoc.† At what time, or by whom it was completed is not known, it must

* Pennant's Tour, I. 212.

† Powel's history of Wales, p. 170.

have been done before 1191, for in that year the Welsh rising and committing many depredations in the marches, Hubert Archbishop of Canterbury, in the absence of the king (Richard I.) who was gone on the Crusade to the Holy land, hastened here with a large army and besieged the castle. It was not however till the garrison had perceived that the besiegers had undermined their walls, that they would surrender, and even this, though the enemy had three men to their one, they did upon the most honourable terms. The Archbishop now fortified it afresh, and placed in it a strong garrison ; but a very short time afterwards it was again attacked by the Welsh, who again obtained it, on the same conditions on which they had surrendered it.*

* Powel, p. 248. Roger Hovedon, 775. Stow's Annals, p. 163. Hovedon and Stow relate that this event took place in 1197.

Before

Before 1233, this castle appears to have once more changed owners, and got into the hands of the English; for, in that year, Llewelyn ap Jorwerth seized and overthrew it.*

It remained in the possession of his grandson, Owen ap Gryffydd, who died, leaving one child, a daughter, called Hawys Gadarn. Four of her uncles disputed her title to her father's land, alledging that a female was not capable of inheriting; but Edward II. befriending her, she was married to John de Charlton, who retained their possessions, which continued in their posterity for several generations. The barony and title went afterwards to Sir John Grey of Northumberland, by marriage with Jane, the eldest daughter of Edward, Lord Powys; and remained in their descendants till the reign of Henry VIII.

* Powel, p. 288.

when the title became extinct. The estate came afterwards into the possession of Sir William Herbert, second son of the Earl of Pembroke, who was created Earl of Powys by Charles I. He obtained it by purchase in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth *.

In October 1644, Powys Castle was attacked and taken for the parliament by Sir Thomas Middleton. Its owner, Piercy Lord Powys †, was taken prisoner; and, on account of his attachment to the king's party, had his estates sequestered, and was obliged to compound for them ‡. During this siege, the castle is said to have been much damaged in its outer walls by the firing from the enemy's cannon. George Earl of Powys, is the present owner.

* Pennant's *Tour*, II. 378.

† Grose in his *Antiquities* says, Francis Herbert was at this time in possession of Powys Castle.

‡ Whitelock's *Memorials*, p. 106.

Betwixt Welsh Pool and Guilsfield, a village about four miles to the north of it, stood the Abbey, called by Tanner, **Ystrat Marchel**, founded by Owen Ceweiliog, in the year 1170, and dedicated by him to the Virgin Mary*. Whether any remains of this house now exist, I cannot say, as I did not visit the place. Its revenues at the dissolution, in the 26th Henry VIII. were estimated by Dugdale at £64. 14s. 2d, and by Speed at £73. 7s. 3d.

About six miles from Welsh Pool I passed a groupe of three lofty mountains, called the Breiddin or Vreiddin Hills. The highest and most conical of

* It was called also **Strata Marcella**, **Alba domus de Strat-Margel**, vall. Crucis or Pola. It is supposed by some to have been built by Madoc ap Griffith Maelor; but it appears that he was only a benefactor to it. In the beginning of the reign of Edward III, the Welsh monks were removed from hence into English abbeys, and English monks were placed here, and the abbey was made subject to the visitation of the abbot and convent of Buildwas in Shropshire.
Tanner's Not. Mon.

these

these is called Moel y Golfa; the second, Craig Breiddin; and the third, Cefyn y Castell. On one of them an obelisk was erected a few years ago, from a subscription of several of the neighbouring gentlemen, in commemoration of Lord Rodney's defeat of the French fleet, under the command of Count de Grasse.

Just before I came to Llanymynech, I had to cross the furious little river Virnwy by a ferry. To this river, Mr. Pennant* has given the title of *piscosus amnis*; and that gentleman enumerates no less than twenty species of eatable fish which are taken in it.

Llan y Mynech, *the Village of Miners*, is a little white-washed village, standing on the northern bank of the Virnwy. It received it's name, no doubt, from the mines in which it's neighbour-

* Tour in Wales, II. 583.

hood abounds, and which were worked in the adjoining hill, called Llanymynech Hill, so early as the time of the Romans. Of this there are undeniable proofs. One vestige of their work is a great artificial cave of an immense length, called *Ogo*, from whence they got copper. The windings of this cavern are so numerous and intricate, that some years back, two men of the parish endeavouring to explore it's mazes, were so bewildered in it's labyrinths, that, when they were found by some miners who went in search of them, they had lain themselves down in despair of ever again seeing day-light. About forty years back, some miners, in search of copper, found, in the recesses of the *Ogo*, several skeletons lying in it. When alive, they seem to have dragged a life of misery in this gloomy mansion for some time; for there were some culinary

nary utensils, a fire-place, and a small hatchet, found near them. There was also found a number of Roman coins of Antoninus, Faustina, and others. One skeleton had a bracelet of glass beads, like those Druidical rings called Gleiniau Madroedd*, or *snake's beads*; the

Oba

* These were glass rings, generally about half as wide as our finger rings, but much thicker, and usually of a greenish colour. They were invented and used by the Druids, as amulets or charms. The popular opinion in Cornwall, and some parts of Wales, respecting them is, that they are not glass, but are produced at a certain time of the year by a number of snakes joining their heads together and hissing, when they say that kind of bubble of a slimy substance is formed upon the head of one of them, which the rest, by continued hissing, blow on, till it passes quite over the body, and off at the tail, when it immediately hardens into this substance. Another opinion prevalent in Wales is, that, at that time of the year when the snakes usually cast their skins, a number of them collect together, and so entwine themselves round one, that, from the rapidity of their motions, they heat and soften it's scales and skin, which being thrust from it's head off at it's tail, soon after hardens into a solid ring. When this office has been performed to one, another undergoes the same, till they have all gone through it. Some of the inhabitants assert, that they have seen them at work. They say, that at those times their eyes appear fiery, and glisten in an extraordinary manner; and they are so fierce,

Ova anguinum of Pliny encircling his left wrist and a battle-axe by his side. About fifteen years after this first discovery, other miners found several human bones there, and a golden bracelet clasping about a wrist.

This hill, besides copper, affords zinc, lead, calamine, and so much lime, as to supply from hence the whole country of Montgomery and great part of Shropshire. About a hundred and fifty men are generally employed here in burning the lime during summer, and fifty in raising and breaking the stone in the winter. In the summer of 1795, upwards of eight thousand tons were exported from hence to different parts*.

From the summit, I had an extensive view over the plains towards Shrews-

as immediately to fly at any person who is so unlucky as to interrupt them.

* Statistical Account of the parish of Llanymynech, by Walter Davies, A. B. Cambrian Register, I, 271, 272.

bury on the east; and on the other side, of the more rough and uncultivated country of Montgomery, in which I either could, or fancied I could, just discern the lofty Pystyll Rhaiadr, lighted by the morning sun, and glittering like a stream of light down the black front of it's rock. Below me was the Virnwy, sweeping in elegant curves along the meadows; and, towards the south of the Breiddin Hills, I had a view in Montgomeryshire of a series of wooded and pleasant little vales.

By this hill runs the rampart made by Offa, King of Mercia, to divide his country from Wales, called Clawdd Of-fa, or Offa's Dyke. This commences at the river Wye, near Bristol, and extends along Herefordshire, Radnorshire, part of Shropshire and Denbighshire, and ends near Treyddin Chapel in Flintshire. This, at the time of it's forma-

tion, was considered as the line which divided the two countries; and it appears to have been continued as such, till near the Conquest; for, in 1064, a law was made by Earl Harold, enacting, that if any Welshman, coming into England without licence, was taken on that side of Offa's Dyke, he should be punished with the loss of his right-hand*. It was supposed by Speed†, and some other historians, that this rampart was made to protect the kingdom of Mercia from the inroads of the Welsh; but this has been sufficiently answered, in an entertaining manner, by Mr. Lewis Morris‡. “ How came “ the King of Mercia to build this wall “ across the island? There must have

* Speed's Chronicle.—Gibson's Camb. 585.—Warrington's History of Wales, p. 225.

† Chronicle, p. 401.

‡ See a Letter of Mr. Lewis Morris to Mr. Robert Vaughan of Nannau. Camb. Reg. II. 498.

" been other Kings to join him; and
" it seems the Welsh were plaguy trou-
" blefome when there must have been
" a wall to separate them. But I can-
" not be of the common opinion, that
" this was a defence against the Welsh;
" for how soon would they demolish a
" mud wall if they were such terrible
" creatures? If they were a parcel of
" poltroons, as some modern wits will
" infer from this silly fortification, what
" occasion was there for a wall against
" such worthless animals? Doth it not
" seem more likely, that upon a peace
" betwixt the English and British prin-
" ces, this was made an everlasting
" boundary line between the two na-
" tions, and that they all joined in it?"

Parallel with two other dykes across
this hill, runs a stupendous rampart of
loose stones, accompanied with a deep
fos, which turning, follows the brow of

the hill, and encompasses about one half of it's extent. This was probably Roman, and has been intended to guard the passages and accessible parts, when their ores lay exposed to the plunder of the Britons*.

From Llanymynech, great quantities of Llangynog† slate have been sent to Bristol; and of late years, lead and zinc, raised in this parish, have been conveyed by the Stourport canal to Birmingham, Macclesfield, and other places.

About two miles north-west of Llanymynech, on the bank of the Virnwy, once stood the Castle of Carreg Hwva: of this there is no vestige remaining, except the foss which guarded it on the east. There is but little account of this place in history. In the year 1162, it

* Cambrian Register, I. 275.

+ Llangynog is a village about fifteen miles distant, in whose mountains much slate is taken.

was taken and spoiled by the two cousin germans Owen Cyveiliog and Owen ap Madoc *, which latter kept possession of it for twenty-five years, when he was besieged there, and slain in the night by his relations Gwenwynwyn and Cadwallon, sons of Owen Cyveiliog, his former companion in plunder and devastation†.

Ofwestry is a considerable market town in Shropshire, and a place that was much celebrated in the Saxon times. Before I came to the town, I passed a large and elegant brick building, a house of Industry, erected a few years ago, by a joint subscription from several of the neighbouring parishes, for the use of their poor. From every present prospect, this place promises to be much more comfortable to the poor;

* Powel's History of Wales, p. 219.

† Ibid, p. 241.

and,

and, in time, much less expensive to their maintainers, than if they were retained in their own parishes.

Near Oswestry, in 642, a celebrated battle was fought, betwixt Penda, the ferocious King of Mercia, and Oswald, King of Northumberland, in which the latter was defeated and slain. Penda was not contented with his conquest, but inhumanly caused the breathless body of Oswald to be cut into pieces, and stuck on poles, as so many trophies of his victory ; and from this event the place derived its name of Oswald's Tree, and afterwards of Oswestry*.

Oswald had been in his life-time a great benefactor to different monasteries; and his name was so much revered amongst the Monks that, very shortly after his death, he was raised to the

* Strutt's Chronicle, I. 138. It may have been called *Oswald's Tre*, which in Welsh would signify *Oswald's Town*. This is & Welsh, or English; it would have been *Tref-Oswald*. rank

rank of a saint; and the field in which he was slain was celebrated for numerous miracles, said to have been wrought in it. The Britons called the place Maes Hir, *the Long Field*; and some time after the death of Oswald, it obtained the name of Croes Oswalt, *Oswald's Cross*.

On the place of the *Martyrdom*, as the monks have termed it, a monastery was founded, dedicated to St. Oswald, which bore the names of Blanc-minster, Candida Ecclesia, Album Monasterium, and White-minster; but no evidences are now left, either of the time of its foundation or its dissolution. It has been so long destroyed, that Leland* says, the cloister was standing within

* Itin. V. 37. His words are, “ The chirch (of Of-
“ westry) was sumtime a monasterie caullid the White Min-
“ ster. After turnid to a paroche chirch, and the parsonage
“ impropriate to the abbey of Shrewsbury. The cloister
“ stode in sommum memoria ubi monumenta monachorum.”

the memory of persons living within his time; but no part of it appears to have been in existence when he was at the place in the reign of Henry VIII. Some have supposed, from the name, and other circumstances, that this monastery was at Whitchurch; but it is evident that this could not have been the case, from Leland's having made his enquiries respecting it upon the spot, and so soon after it was destroyed.

On an artificial mount, at the outside of the town, are the poor remains of the Castle, being but a little more than a confused heap of broken walls and mortar.

This castle, according to the Welsh historians, was founded in 1148, by Madoc ap Meredith ap Bleddyn, Prince of Powys*. But the English records place

* Powel, p. 201.—Leland, in Itin. V. 37, gives some colour to this; for he says “*Madocus, filius Meredoci, Princeps Poisieæ castrum, ut aiunt posuit. Extat turris in castro nomine Madoci.*”

it in the possession of Alan, a noble Norman, who they say received it from William the Conqueror, immediately after the conquest.

X Mr. Pennant * thinks that Sir William Dugdale is right in his assertion, that there was a castle here at the time of the conquest; for “the artificial mount on which it was placed indicates it to have been earlier than the Roman æra. The Britons and Saxons gave their fortresses this species of elevation. The Normans built on the firm and natural soil or rock; but often made use of these mounts, which they found to have been the site of a Saxon castle. This appears to have been the case with that in question.”

The town was destroyed, in 1216, by King John, on account of Llewelyn's refusal to assist in the contentions taking

* Tour, I. 264.

place

place betwixt himself and his Barons.* And, about seventeen years afterwards, it experienced a second disaster, in being burned by Llewelyn; but, in the reign of Edward I. provision was made against any future insults, by surrounding it with walls†.

It has been favoured at different times with many considerable privileges from its lords; but it was in the year 1406 that its most extensive charter was granted by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, then owner of the place. This gave to the inhabitants many privileges which they had not before enjoyed; the chief of which were, that neither the lord nor his heirs should confiscate or seize the effects of persons dying with or without will in the corporation, and that none of the inhabitants of the lordships of Oswestry, Melverley, Kinardsley, Egerley, Ruyton, and eleven neighbouring

* Powel. p. 275.

† Ibid, p. 288.

towns*

towns* should take any cattle or goods to any foreign fair or market before they had been first exposed to sale in the town of Oswestry under the penalty of six shillings and eight pence†.

In the civil wars Oswestry, which was well defended by its walls, was possessed by the King, till June, 1644, when it was besieged by General Mytton, and Earl of Denbigh, with a force consisting of about two hundred foot, and two troops of horse. In the attack the soldiers were so furious, that within an hour, and with the loss of only one, or two men, a breach was made in the wall, by which they entered the town. The inhabitants in consternation, then fled into the castle for defence, but an attack was immediately made upon it, by Cannon

* These are called *the Eleven Towns*; they form a Manor in Oswestry hundred, their names are Old Rayton, Cotton, Shelvoke, Shottaton, Wykey, Eardeston, Tedsmere, Rednall, Haughton, Sutton, and Jelton.

† Pennant's Tour; I, 268, 269.

and George Cranage, a daring youth, was persuaded to hang a petard* to the castle gate. After being well animated with sack, he undertook this desperate attempt. He crept with the engine unperceived from house to house, till he got to that next the castle; he then fastened it to the gate, set fire to it and escaped unhurt. This, with it's force in exploding, burst open the castle gate, and the place was immediately taken. The Deputy Governor, four Captains, and about three hundred soldiers were made prisoners. Mytton was now made Governor, and the Earl of Denbigh left the place and hastened to other service in Lancashire.

* A Petard was an Engine made of copper, mixed with a little brass and shaped somewhat like a high crowned hat, used in breaking down gates, barricades, drawbridges, &c. which were intended to be surprized. It was commonly about ten inches high, seven in diameter at the top, and ten at the bottom. It was loaded with gunpowder, and being fastened to the place to be surprized, was lighted by a match, which gave time to the soldier to escape.

Before

Before the attack was made, the Governor pulled down the steeple and part of the body of the church, which stood without the walls, left the enemy should make use of it to annoy them from thence.*

On the 29th. of the same month the king's forces, consisting of about three thousand foot and fifteen hundred horse, under the command of Colonel Marrow, Governor of Chester, attempted to re-take it, but Mytton sending to Sir Thomas Middleton for assistance ; upon his coming up, the king's troops were attacked, and completely routed.† Some-time after the death of the king, the castle was demolished.

Oswestry and it's hundred, were part of Wales at the making of Domesday. They were taken out in 8. Edward I.

* Mr. Edwards's MSS. quoted in Pennant's Tour, I. 271.
Whitelock's Memorials, p. 92.

† Rushworth's Historical Collections, Part III. Vol. II.
p. 744, 745. Whitlock, p. 94.

Not

Not far from the church, was a fine spring of water, surrounded by a stone wall, having a chapel over it, called Oswald's Well. Of the origin of this well Leland* says, they had at the place a tradition that, when Oswald was slain, an eagle tore one of the arms from the body, and making off with it, fell down and perished upon this spot, from whence a spring of water immediately flushed up, which has remained ever since a memorial of the event.

Leland's† account of Oswestry is very copious, “ There be,” he informs us, “ withyn the towne a X. notable streats. “ The 3. most notable streates be: The “ crosse-streate, *ubi Crux lapidex*: The “ Bayly streate, *ubi forum maximum* “ & mercatores. The 3. the New-“ Gate streate. The houses within the

* Itin. V. 38.

+ Ibid. 37, 38.

“ towne,

“ towne be of tymbre, and flatid. There
“ is a bayly and Sergiantes.

“ Ther is a castelle sette on a mont
“ be likelihod made by hand and ditchid
“ by south west, betwixt Beatrice Gate
“ and Willow gate, to the which the
“ wall commith.

“ The towne standith most by sale of
“ cloth made in Wales.

“ There is a free school on the south
“ west side of the church, made by one
“ Davy Holbeche a Lawyer, steward of
“ the towne, and Lordship, and gave X
“ *li.* land to it.

“ There be 4. suburbs. The great-
“ est wherein be *iiii.* streates, thus caul-
“ lid, *Stratellan*: The seconde suburbe
“ streate *Wallibo*; the 3. Beteriche, wher
“ be many barns for corne and hay, to
“ the number of a *VII.* score several
“ barns. The 4. *Blake Gate* streate, and
“ ther be *XXX* barnes for corne, with
“ other

“ other houses longging to the Townes-
 “ men. There goith thorowg the town
 “ by the crosse a broke cumming from
 “ a place caullid *Simon's Welle*, a bow
 “ shot without the waulle by North
 “ West. This broke commith in
 “ thorough the waulle betwixt Willow-
 “ gate and New-gate, and so renning
 “ through the towne goith oute under
 “ the Black-gate.

“ There be no Towers in the waules beside the gates.
 “ The towne is dickid about and brokette ren ynto it.
 “ The chirch of St. Oswalde is a very faire leddid chirch
 “ with a great towrrid steple, and it
 “ standith without the New-gate; so
 “ that no chirch is there within the
 “ towne.”

The following is Churchyard's* undorned account of this place and it's trade.

* —“ Ozefry, a pretie towne full fine,
 Which may be lov'd, be likte and prayfed both.
 It stands so trim, and is maintaynd so cleane,
 And peopled is, with folke that well doe meane;

That

That it deserves, to be enroll'd and shrynd
In each good breast, and every manly mynd.—
The market there, so farre exceeds withall,
As no one towne comes neere it in some sort ;
For look what may be wish'd or had at call
It is there found, as market men report.
For poultie, foule, of every kind somewhat,
No place can shewe, so much more cheape then that :
All kinds of Cakes that country can afford,
For money there is bought with one bare word.”—

CHAP. II.

FROM OSWESTRY TO RUABON.—CHIRK
—AQUEDUCT — CHURCH — DR. SACHE-
VEREL—CASTLE—PAINTING OF PES-
TYLL RHAIADR—ELEGANT SCENE AT
NEWBRIDGE — RUABON—CHURCH AND
MONUMENTS.—

THE village of Chirk stands on the brow of a hill, and from the numerous coal and other works around, it appeared a place of some business. The Ellesmere Canal will pass within half a mile of it ; this canal is to be carried over the river

and vale of Ceiriog, by a long aqueduct, part of which was finished when I was here. Within a very little distance of the aqueduct, the canal will have to pass thro' a Tunnel, of very considerable length, these inconveniences of hill and vale, must render the forming of canals, through a mountainous country like this, most expensive undertakings.

In the church at Chirk, are several marble monuments, belonging to the Middletons, of Chirk Castle, but none of them well executed ; the best is one in memory of Sir Thomas Middleton, who was one of the commanders in the Parliament's Army, during the late civil wars.

In the year 1709, that well known character Dr. Sacheverel, whose history affords a most striking instance of the folly and madness of party, exalting an obscure individual, possessed but of moderate

derate talents, to the greatest height of popularity, was inducted to this living ~~in the year 1700.~~ He was met on the confines of Wales by five thousand horsemen, among whom were persons of the first fortunes in Shropshire. And he met with respect in every town, little short of adoration.* The Hand Inn is the best in the place, and, for a village Inn, is a very tolerable house.

Chirk Castle† is about a mile and a half distant. This building like that of Powys, still retains a mixture of the castle and mansion. It stands in an exposed and open situation, on the summit of a hill commanding from its top a most extensive view into seventeen different counties. On the outside, it retains its antique aspect; it is a quadrangular

* Pennant, I. 142.

† "At Chirk selfe be a few houses, and there is on a
"smalle hille a mighty large and stronge castel with dy-
"vers towers, a late welle repayred by Syr Wylliam Stande-
"ley the Gerle of Darby's brother." Leland's *Itin.* V. 34.

building, having four towers, one at each corner and a fifth in the front, but these being near fifty feet thick, give the whole a heavy and clumsy aspect. Within is an elegant court yard a hundred and sixty five feet long, and a hundred broad, having on the east side a handsome Colonade. The Dungeon, the descent to which is down a flight of forty two steps, is said to be as deep as the walls are high. The chief apartments are a Saloon, Drawing room and Gallery ; in the latter of which is a large collection of paintings principally consisting of family portraits.

In a room adjoining to this, I observed a singular landscape, in which Pistyll Rhaiadr, the celebrated waterfall in Montgomeryshire, was painted as falling into the sea, which washed the foot of it's rock. I enquired into the cause of this strange impropriety, and was informed,

formed, that the painter was a foreign artist, who had been employed to take a view of the waterfall, by one of the Middletons. He had nearly finished his piece when it was hinted to him, that a few *sheep* scattered up and down, would probably add to its beauty ; but the artist mistaking the hint, and being nettled that a person whom he judged ignorant of the art, should think of instructing him, tartly replied, “ You “ want some *sheeps* in it ? Oh ! Oh ! I’ll “ put you some *sheeps* in it ! ” He then dashed out part of the picture and introduced the sea, and several *sheeps*, (Ships) some of which are ridiculously represented as coming quite up to the rocks.

The present castle was built by Roger Mortimer, son of Roger, Baron of Wigmore, on the site of one of very ancient date, called Castell Crogen, near which, in 1165, was fought a dreadful battle be-

tween

+ Hence, — Welsh were called *Crogans*.

tween the English forces, under Henry II. and the Welsh army, under Owen Gwynedd, in which Henry was at length routed with great loss.*

Roger Mortimer and John, Earl of Warren, were appointed guardians to the two Sons of Madoc ap Gryffydd, a strenuous partisan of Henry III. and Edward I. These two villains murdered their wards, and seized their estates to their own use. Mortimer's share in this robbery, was the lands of the youngest of them at Nan-heudwy and Chirk,† where he found it politic to erect a place of defence. He did not however enjoy his plunder long, for he died in the tenth of Edward I. after having been imprisoned in the tower four years and a half, but without being brought to trial for his injustice. It was

* Powel's History of Wales, p. 221.

† Pennant's Tour, I. 217.

notwithstanding suffered to continue in the family, and his grandson John sold the castle to Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, whose son in 7 of Edward III. was constituted Governor of it, with a confirmation of his father's grant. The Fitz Alans possessed it for three generations, after which it passed to Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, in right of his wife Elizabeth, eldest sister of Thomas, Earl of Arundel, and on his disgrace and exile, in 1397, was probably resumed by the crown. It was afterwards granted to William Beauchamp, Earl of Abergavenny, who married the other sister, and by the marriage of his granddaughter with Edward Nevil, (afterwards Lord Abergavenny) it was in the reign of Henry VI. conveyed into that family. It came afterwards to Sir William Stanley, and upon his execution again to the Crown.

Elizabeth

Elizabeth bestowed it on her favorite Dudley, Earl of Leicester, on whose death it became the property of Lord St. John of Bletso, whose son, in 1595, sold it to Sir Thomas Middleton, Knight,* one of the ancestors of the present owner, Richard Middleton, Esquire.

In the civil wars Sir Thomas Middleton revolted from the parliament, and made a short defence of the castle, when one side and three towers were thrown down in the attack, but these were rebuilt by him within one year, at an expence of no less than eighty thousand pounds.

About two miles from Chirk, in the road to Ruabon, I was delighted with a most pleasing view down a woody vale, in the bottom of which ran the river Dee. This was the first time I had seen

* Camden's Britannia. Pennant's Tour, p. I. 285, 286.
this

this stream, surrounded with that romantic beauty in which it is exceeded by very few rivers in the kingdom.

X This scene was interesting, but a little further on, at a bridge, over which the road led me, called the New Bridge, it was much exceeded in beauty by another view up the river. Out of the road, about a hundred yards above the bridge, such a scene was presented to me, that had I possessed the pencil of a Claude, I could have painted one of the most exquisite landscapes the eye ever beheld. The river here darted along its rugged bed, and its rocky banks clad with wood, where every varied tint that autumn could afford added to their effect, cast a darkening shade upon the stream. With the green oak, all the different hues of the ash, the elm and the hazel were intermingled. Above the bridge arose a few cottages surrounded with foliage.

The

The evening was calm, and the smoke, tinged by the setting sun, descended upon the vale, whilst the distant mountains were brightened by his beams into a fine purple. I contemplated these beauties till the declining sun had sunk beneath the horizon, and twilight had begun to steal over the landscape, to blend into one, every different shade of reflection, and to cover the whole face of nature with it's sober grey. I then forced myself away, and pursued my journey to Ruabon, my residence for the night.

Ruabon is a village pleasantly situated on a rising ground, and has around it the residences of several gentlemen of fortune. At this place I spent two or three days very agreeably; these I occupied in making little excursions to the neighbouring places, and in admiring the entertaining scenery around it.

The

The church is a good building; it has in it an Organ, (a thing rather uncommon in Welsh churches) which was given to it by the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynne. Here is an ancient table monument of marble of two recumbent figures, having round it's edge the following inscription.

"Orate pro aia Johis ap Elis Euton Armigeri,
qui obiit vicesio octa^o, die mensis Septemberis anno
dni MDXXVI. Et pro aia Elizabethæ Clefeley uxori
ej. qui obiit xi^o, die mensis Junii anno dni
MDXXIV. quor. aiabus propitietur Deus. Amen."

There are also four other marble monuments, two of which are deserving of particular attention. One of them is in memory of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, who died on the 26th. of September, 1749, and the other of Lady Henrietta Williams Wynne, the wife of Sir Watkin, who died in the year 1769. She is represented by a beautiful figure

of

of hope, reclining on an urn. The inscription is on the pedestal, within a circle formed by a serpent, as expressive of eternity.

Dr. Powel the celebrated Welsh historian, who translated into English the history of Wales, written in the British language, by Caradoc of Llancarvan, was instituted to this Vicarage in the year 1571.

CHAP. III.

EXCURSION FROM RUABON TO BANGOR
ISCOED—WYNNSTAY—FINE VIEW AT
NANT Y BELE—PEN Y LLAN—OVER-
TON—YEWS IN THE CHURCH-YARD—
BANGOR—BRIDGE AND MONASTERY.

FROM Ruabon, I wandered into the grounds of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, at Wynnstay. These grounds are extensive, being near eight miles in circum-

* circumference; they are well wooded, and come close up to the village. I observed here some very large oak, ash, and birch trees; the trunk of one of the oaks was near fifty feet in girth in the smallest part. Some workmen were just finishing a handsome column, which had a well-staircase up it, and a gallery round it's top. I ascended, in hopes that it would afford me a fine view of the country, but was somewhat disappointed; for, though the prospect was extensive, it was by no means beautiful. Not far from this column, is a pool, supplied from the rivulet which runs from Rua-bon: this is, with the assistance of art, thrown down a small rock, and forms not an inelegant cascade.

The house has but little of elegance about it; it wants uniformity in it's buildings, having been erected at different times, and in different stiles of architecture.

chitecture. This place was anciently the residence of Madoc ap Gryffydd Mae-lor, Lord of Bromfield, and founder of the abbey of Valle Crucis, near Llangollen. It had formerly the name of Wattstay, from the ancient rampart called Watt's Dyke having lain through the grounds; but, when it came into the possession of the Wynne family, this name was changed to Wynnstay.

x Nant y Bele, *the Dingle of the Martin*, which is not far from Wynnstay, is a deep woody hollow, whose sides, steep and rocky, contain in their bottom the waters of the Dee, which here roll on, blackened by the depth of their shady banks, and are, for the most part, hidden from the observer by the thickness of the foliage. In the distant background, I observed Chirk Castle, and the country around it, clad in lively colours; whilst, more to the west, I had Castell

Dinas

Dinas Brân crowning the summit of it's steep mountain. The whole of the vale, as far as Llangollen, lay nearly in a line, and was richly varied with wood, rock, and pasture. The scene was closed in the horizon by the far distant British Alps, which bounded the sight.

From this station I went along the side of the Dee, clambering over hedges and ditches, till I came to Pen y Llan, the seat of —— Lloyd, Esq. from whence I had another charming view of this pleasing country.

X I returned to Ruabon, and rambled from thence to Bangor Iscoed, a village about ten miles distant. I passed through Overton, a pretty little place, seated on an eminence at a small distance from the Dee. Near the bridge I had another fine prospect on this romantic stream, the scenery of which was somewhat similar to that of the new bridge on the road to Chirk.

In

In the church-yard I saw several fine old yew trees, which Mr. Pennant says have, from their beauty, been accounted amongst the wonders of Wales. Whence the custom of planting yew trees in church-yards arose, I am at a loss to say. It seems to be of great antiquity, for Ossian speaks thus of two lovers:—

“Here rests their dust, Cuthullin; these
“lonely yews sprang up from their
“tomb, and shade them from the
“storm.” They may probably have been considered as emblematical of the state of mankind. The leaves being of a most poisonous quality, may have been thought an emblem of mortality, whilst the durable foliage resisting even the winter’s blasts, and the great age to which the trees frequently attain, of two or three centuries, are not unaptly significant of immortality and eternity.

*probably
anted in
church yards
poisonous to
frogs; and thus
ground w
kept free
profanation*

Bangor is somewhat more than two miles beyond Overton. It is situated

on the banks of the Dee, which flows under a handsome bridge of five arches, on which is the following whimsical inscription.

MVND. 5607.

DENB. CC. CONCIT.

REPARAT. AN. CHRIST. 1658. SVMP. E. COMIT. LIB. M. A.

HEGYR. 1036.

FLINT. C.

X This place is chiefly celebrated, as having been the site of the most ancient monastery in the kingdom, founded, as is supposed, by Lucius, the son of Coel, the first Christian King of Britain, for the increase of learning, and for the preservation of the Christian faith in this realm, sometime prior to the year 180*. Lucius founded it for an University; and it produced for those unenlightened ages many learned men; but it was afterwards converted into a mo-

* Speed's Chronicle, I. 207. According to Rowland, Lucius is said to have embraced the Christian faith from the preaching of Timothy, the son of Claudia Rustina, a British lady, and a disciple of St. Paul. See *Mona antiqua scita*. p. 178.

nastery, some say by Cynwyl or Congellus, about the year 530, who was made the first abbot*, and others by Pelagius the monk, a native of Wales, who had been a student here in his youth; he was a man of great learning, who, having travelled through France, Italy, Egypt, Syria, and other Eastern countries, was made a bishop abroad; and it was after his return that he is said to have converted this house †.

This monastery was remarkable for its valuable library; and Speed ‡, from its great age and number of learned men, says it “was truly acknowledged “to be the mother of all the other in “the world.” Nennius, or Niniaw, a disciple of Elvod, who lived in the fe-

* Jones's Welsh Bards, p. 11.

† Holinshed's Chronicle, I. 26, 148.—Rowland's Mona Antiq. p. 179. Some have asserted that Pelagius was never in this kingdom.

‡ Speed's Chronicle, I. 206.

venth century, and wrote in Latin a ^{in y ninth} History of Britain, which is extant in the present day, was one of the abbots*.

At the coming of Augustine the monk, who was missioned by Pope Gregory I. to England about 596, to convert the English Saxons to Christianity, the monastery of Bangor appears to have been in a very flourishing state. There were at this time no less than two thousand four hundred monks, a hundred of which in their turns passed one hour in devotion, so that the whole twenty-four hours of every day were employed in sacred duties†. Bede says there were so many, that being divided into seven parts, each contained three hundred men, which, with their proper rulers, passed their time alternately in prayer and labour‡.

* Gibson's Camd. p. 568.—Jones's Welsh Bards, p. 14.

† Speed's Chronicle, I. 26.

‡ Hist. Eccl. Gentis Angl. a venerab. Beda, Lib. II. cap. ii. p. 111, 112, 113.—Holinshed's Chron. I. 25.

These monks were dissenters from the Romish church; and, upon the arrival of St. Augustine, a conference was held betwixt him, and, amongt others, many great and learned men from this monastery, when the imperious monk demanded of them, that they should keep the feast of Easter at the same time that the Papists did; that they should administer baptism according to the custom of the church of Rome; and they should (according to Holinshed's expression) "preach the word of life with him and his fellows;" but that in other things they might retain their ancient customs, insolently adding, that "if they would not accept of peace with their brethren, they should receive war from their enemies, and through their hands should suffer death*." They did not obey his commands, but resolutely main-

* Holinshed, T. 103.—Hil. Eccl. a Beda.

tained

tained the original rites of their church: shortly after this period followed the dreadful massacre of above twelve hundred of the society, by Ethelfrid King of Northumbria, at the battle of Chester*. This slaughter the British annals and songs ascribe to the instigation of Augustine, which, after the preceding contentions, seems very probable.

The monastery appears as if it had gone to decay soon after this event; for William of Malmesbury †, who lived shortly after the Norman Conquest, has reported, that in his time there remained only some relics of its ancient greatness; but that there were then so many ruined churches, and such immense heaps of rubbish as were not elsewhere to be met with. Leland‡ says of it in his time, that it stood on the south side of

a precious Christian.

* Matt. Westm. p. 205.

† Script. post BEDAM. p. 294. ‡ Itin. V. p. 30.

the Dee; “ It is ploughed grownd now
“ where the abbey was by the space of a
“ good walsche myle; and they plough
“ up bones of the monkes, and in re-
“ membraunce were diggid up pieces of
“ their clothes in sepultures. The ab-
“ bey stoode in a faire valley, and Dee
“ ran by it. The compafs of it was as
“ of a walled towne, and yet remaineth
“ the name of a gate called *porth bogan*,
“ by the north; and the name of ano-
“ ther caullid *porth clays*, by the south.
“ Dee since chaunging the bottom run-
“ nith now through the mydle betwyxt
“ these 2. gates, one being a mile *dim**.
“ from the other; and yn this grounde
“ be ploughid up foundations of squarid
“ stones, and Roman money is founde
“ there.”

This place appears also to have been
the fite of Bovium or Bonium, a famous

* *Dimidium.*

Roman

Roman station: but there are not at present the least remains either of the monastery or the city to be met with.

CHAP. IV.

FROM RUABON TO WREXHAM.—ERDDIG—WREXHAM—CHURCH AND MONUMENTS—INSCRIPTIONS—WREXHAM FAIR—EXCURSION TO HOLT—CHURCH AND CASTLE.—

I LEFT Ruabon and proceeded towards Wrexham, but in order to go through the grounds of Philip York, Esq.* at Erddig, I went along a footpath somewhat to the right of the horse road. These grounds are laid out with some taste, but the efforts of art are so infinitely inferior to the works of nature, of which I had of late such ample treats,

* The author of an excellent work, very lately published, called the Fifteen Tribes of North Wales, containing much historical information.

that

that I cannot say they afforded me much pleasure. Watt's dyke runs through them, and it is said that there are some remains of a Roman fort not far distant; of this, however, there seems much doubt, as the only evidences of it, are a fragment of a wall, cemented with mortar, and some traditional accounts, the truth of which seems very uncertain.

Wrexham is a populous market town, which, from its size and consequence, may not improperly be nominated the metropolis of North Wales. The buildings are in general good, and the country around it is so beautiful as to have induced many families to fix their residence in its vicinity. It has been a place of some antiquity, being known to the Saxons by the names of Wrightesham or Wrightlesham,*

The

* Leland says, " Wrexham truly called Wrightlesham, " is the only market town of Walsche Maylor, having a " goodly

X The church, which according to Leland, was formerly collegiate is a most elegant structure. The inside is spacious, having over the pillars much grotesque carving, and over the arches the arms of many of the British and Saxon Princes. It is not however loaded with carving as many of the gothic churches are; but is plain, and kept extremely neat.

Here are two monuments the work of Roubiliac, the one in memory of Mary, the daughter of Sir Richard Middleton, who died in 1747, is particularly fine. She is represented bursting from the tomb, and with a countenance so truly angelic, where the mixture of surprize and admiration is so firmly and strongly

" goodly chirch collegiate ; there longith no Prebendes to
" it, though it be collegiated. There be sum Merchauntes
" and good Bokeler" (that is Buckler, or Shield) " Ma-
" kers." Itin. V. 32,

expressed

expressed, that it is almost possible to fancy it more than stone. The “ Saint-ed Maid” says Miss Seward,

—amid the bursting tomb
Hears the last trumpet thrill its murky gloom,
With smile triumphant over death and time
Lifts the rapt eye and rears the form sublime.

In the background an ancient pyramid, a building the most calculated to resist the efforts of time, is excellently represented as falling to pieces. The little figure blowing the trumpet is not at all apropos, and might have been well excused. But on the whole this is a piece of sculpture that must afford delight to every admirer of the art.

The other monument of Roubiliac's workmanship, is in memory of the Reverend Thomas Middleton, and Arabella his wife. Their faces are represented in profile on a medallion.

Nearly opposite to the former is a recumbent figure of Hugh Bellot, who was

was Bishop of Bangor, and was afterwards translated to the See of Chester, who died in 1596. Under the belfry is an antique monument, which was taken out of the ground some years ago; it was found by some workmen in digging for a foundation for the iron gates of the church-yard. The figure is of a knight in complete armour, with his feet resting upon some kind of an animal, and round his shield is an inscription which the Antiquaries have not yet been able to understand.

The altar piece was brought from Rome, and given to the church by Elihu Yale, Esq. who was interred in the church-yard; it is a fine painting of the institution of the Sacrament.

On the outside, the church is richly ornamented with gothic sculpture. The tower, which is an hundred and thirty five feet high is particularly elegant, and

on three of it's sides, have been statues of no less than thirty saints, each as large as life ; of these, two have been destroyed by falling from their niches. Miss Seward, in her verses on Wrexham, has expressed in beautiful numbers the elegance of this building.

Her hallow'd temple there religion shews,
That erst with beauteous majesty arose,
In ancient days when gothic art display'd
Her fanes in airy elegance array'd,
Whose nameless charms the Dorian claims efface,
Corinthian splendor and Ionic grace.

In the church-yard are several singular inscriptions ; of these I transcribed the two following. The first was on the tomb of Elihu Yale, who died, in the year 1721.

Born in America, in Europe bred,
In Afric travelled, and in Asia wed ;
Where long he liv'd and thriv'd—In London dead,
Much good some ill he did, so hope all's even,
And that his soul thro' mercy's gone to Heaven !
, You that survive and read this tale, take care
For this most certain exit to prepare,
Where blest in peace the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in the silent dust.

The

The other which is more light and simple, says only,

Here lies interred beneath these stones
The beard, the flesh and eke the bones
Of Wrexham Clerk old Daniel Jones.

He died in the year 1668.

The present church, except the tower was finished before 1472, the former building having been destroyed by fire, and the tower, from the date that is upon it does not seem to have been completed till the year, 1506. In 1647, during the civil wars, it was for some time made a prison, in which several of the Committee men were confined by the Parliament's soldiers, who had mutined for want of pay.*

At Wrexham there is a noted annual fair, held in the month of March, ^N which lasts nine days, and is frequented by traders from almost all parts of the

* Whitelock's Memorials, p. 243.

kingdom.

kingdom. The commodities brought by the Welsh are chiefly flannels, linen, Linfey-woolsey, and horses and cattle in abundance. Traders from other parts bring Irish linen, Yorkshire and woolen cloths, Manchester goods, and Birmingham manufactures of all kinds. There are two squares or ~~areas~~^{reas}, the old and the new, for the accomodation of those who have goods to sell in their little shops or booths. Here is also a convenient Town hall. The center street in which the market is held is of a considerable length and of an unusual width, for an ancient town.

The two principal Inns are the Eagles, and the Red Lion, both very good houses. Of these the former is usually esteemed the best; I experienced at it the most obliging treatment.

In the neighbourhood of Wrexham are several manufactories of military instru-

instruments, but in particular a large Cannon foundery not far from the town.

From Wrexham I went to Holt, at present an obscure little village, on the west bank of the Dee. This has once been a market town, and a place of some consequence ; the only relic now left of its former greatness, is its still continuing to be governed by a Mayor and Aldermen.* the Mayor, on account of the smallness of the place, is usually some gentleman of respectability who resides in the neighbourhood. It was incorporated by charter, granted by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in 1410.†

The

* It must have been much diminished even in Leland's time.
" Holt is a praty rich Walsche toune, governid by a Mayor,
" having ons a yere a fair, but furely now no celebreate
" Market." Leland's Itin. V. 32.

† This charter was very partial, running in this form,
" To the burgeses of our town and to their heirs, and suc-
" cef-

The inhabitants contribute with those of Ruthin and Denbigh, towards sending a burges to Parliament.

This place is also called Lyons; the castle was anciently called *Castrum Leonis*, which name Camden supposes it may have obtained from the twentieth legion having been stationed a little distance higher up, on the other side of the Dee.*

The two villages of Holt and Farndon, are divided only by the river, and have a communication by a bridge of ten arches, built in the year 1345. The Dee at this place divides England from Wales, Farndon being in Cheshire and Holt in Denbighshire. The scenery is flat and unpleasant, the Dee instead of steep and rocky banks, being retained in

"cessors being *Englifbmen*." This might arise from the hatred that the Lord Marchers had to the Welsh, on account of the insurrection of Glyndwr at that time scarcely suppressed. *Pennant's Tour, I. 210.*

* Gough's *Cal*den, II. 576.

it's channel only by low and uninteresting meadows.

The church, or more properly chapel, for it is a chapel of ease to Gresford, the parish church, is built of the same kind of red stone, and seems to be of about the same antiquity as the bridge.

The castle, of which the remains are but little more than solid rock, was situated close to the river. It was defended on three sides by a trench, forty or fifty yards wide, cut out of the solid rock, of which eight or ten yards of the foundation of the castle ~~was~~^{were} formed. From the colour and grit of the stone used in the building, it appears to have been taken from this trench. The fortress consisted of five bastions, four of which were round, and the remaining one, next the river, square. The entrance was by a drawbridge over the trench on the west side. So little of the stone work

is left that from it's present state it is impossible to form any idea of it's ancient strength, as a place of defence. The site is very small, and being on a level with the town must have chiefly relied for it's strength, on the deep and perpendicular sides of it's trench.

The lands about this place and at Chirk, were, in the reigns of Henry III. and the beginning of Edward I. the property of Madoc ap Gryffydd, who dying, left two sons both Minors.* Edward I. to whom Madoc had been an adherent, gave the guardianship of one of them, (who was to have for his divi-

* Pennant's Tour, I. 217. Though Mr. P. seems very satisfactorily to have shewn that these were the children of Madoc and not of Gryffydd, as is frequently supposed, yet from his general accuracy, I wonder that he should have relapsed into the other opinion in the same Volume, p. 285 and 297, where he says, they were the children of Gryffydd, the father of this Madoc. Camden, p. 622, seems to have made the same mistake, he says, John, Earl Warren, was guardian to " Madoc, a British Prince."

tion of his father's property, the Lordship of Bromfield and Yale in which the Holt stands; the castle of Dinas Brân, and the reversion of Maelor Saesneg, after his mother's death) to John, Earl of Warren; and of the other, who was to have Chirk and Nan-heudwy, to Roger Mortimer, son of Lord Mortimer of Wigmore. The villainous guardians conspiring to free themselves from their charge, and to get possession of the Estates of their wards, caused both of the unfortunate children to be drowned under Holt Bridge.* This barbarity instead of being punished, was most unjustly rewarded by Edward I. for he confirmed to Warren, the castle of Dinas Brân, with the Lordship of Bromfield and Yale, and to Mortimer, that of Chirk.† They immediately began to secure their possessions, by erecting

* Pennant, I. 217. † Ayliffe's Rotuli Wallid, p. 61.

on them places of Defence; Mortimer built the castle of Chirk, and Warren this of Holt; but he dying, the finishing of it was left to his son William.*

In the 9th. of Edward II. John Earl Warren, the grandson, having no issue, by a special grant, gave this castle, with that of Dinas Brân, and the Lordship of Bromfield and Yale to the King; but having soon after divorced his wife, he the next year, obtained a regrant of the same, to himself and Matilda de Nereford, his Mistress for life, with remainders to his two illegitimate children John and Thomas, and their heirs; but in want of such issue to return to the king. Matilda was the last survivor, and therefore at her death, in the 33. of Edward III. these estates all reverted to the crown.†

* Powel's History of Wales, p. 213.

+ Dugdale, I. 81. says, that the grant to the King was made in the 18th. of Edward II. I have in my possession copies of both the charters, the first is dated in the 9th. of Edward II. and the other in the following year.

They

They seem, however, to have been very shortly afterwards given to Edward Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, who had married Alice, the Earl's sister. In this family they continued for three generations, but, upon the execution of Richard, they were probably forfeited to the crown, for we are told that when Holt Castle was delivered to the Duke of Hertford, in 1399, there were found in it Jewels to the value of two hundred thousand marks, and a hundred thousand marks in money, which had been deposited there for safety, by the unfortunate Richard II. before he went on his expedition into Ireland.*

Thomas, the son of Richard, Earl of Arundel, who, in the succeeding reign had been restored in blood, died in 1416, without issue, when his unsettled estates fell to his sisters, of whom one was

* Holinshed's Chronicle, II. 500.

married

married to Sir Gerard Ufefleet, and the other to William Beauchamp, Lord of Abergavenny. The share of the latter descended by a daughter to Nevil, Lord Abergavenny.

After this they must have escheated to the crown, for they were granted by Henry VII. to Sir William Stanley, on whose execution, Henry not only resumed the Lordship of Bromfield and Yale, but seized all his vast effects, which in plate and money, to the value of more than forty thousand marks, (the plunder of Bosworth-field) were taken in this castle.*

Henry VIII. gave this Lordship to his natural son, Henry Fitzroy, Duke of Richmond. He enjoyed it but a short time, dying about two years after he had received it, at the age of seventeen.

* Fuller's Worthies of Wales, p. 34. Pennant's Tour, L. 218, 219.

In the following reign it got into the possession of Thomas Seymour, brother to the protector, Somerset, who formed here a great Magazine of military stores; but upon his execution, it once more fell into the hands of the crown.*

Holt Castle in the civil wars was garrisoned for the king, but in 1643, was seized by Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Middleton, for the use of the parliament.† It was afterwards retaken by the royalists, for in February 1645-6 this castle, with those of Ruthin and Hawarden, was besieged by the parliament's forces. Sir Richard Lloyd, the Governor, defended it bravely, but after having held out for above a month, he was at length obliged to surrender, which he did on articles to Colonel Pope, in the absence of

* Pennant, I. 219. † Whitelock's Memorials, p. 77.

the general.* In December it was, with four others, ordered by the parliament to be dismantled.†

The Lordship of Bromfield and Yale is at present in the crown, under the direction of a Steward, an office in his Majesty's disposal, which is at present filled by Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart.

CHAP. V.

FROM WREXHAM TO MOLD.—CAER-GWRLE CASTLE.—HOPE.—PLAS TÊG.—MOLD.—CHURCH.—SINGULAR EPITAPH ON DR. WYNNE.—CASTLE.—RHUAL.—MAES GARMON, AND THE *Alleluia* VICTORY.

ABOUT half way betwixt Wrexham and Caergwrle, I passed through a romantic and woody glen, which would have

* Whitelock's Memorials, p. 192, 197.

+ Ibid. 231.

formed

formed a very picturesque scene, had it not been for the number of white-washed cottages which unpleasingly obtruded themselves from amongst the trees. Beyond this, a neat little bridge of a single arch, with a few rustic cottages on the bank of the stream overshadowed with trees, were pretty. The aspect of the country was here far more mountainous than that I had lately passed; but having gone through this vale, I soon had again flat and uncultivated prospects.

Caergwrle, like Holt, has been once a flourishing town, and continued such till Wrexham became so much frequented, since which time it has by degrees dwindled almost to nothing. It is in the parish of Hope, a town about half a mile distant.

There is every reason to suppose that Caergwrle was formerly a Roman sta-

tion, probably an outpost to Deva. Whilst Camden was himself at this place, an hypocaust, hewn out of the solid rock, six yards and a quarter long, five yards broad, and rather more than half a yard high, was discovered here; to some of the tiles were inscribed **LEGIO XX**, which seems to point out the founders *.

The place appears to have been called
 ✕ **Caer Gawr Lle**, *the Camp of the Great*
 2? **Legion**, the name which the Britons be-
 stowed on the twentieth legion to im-
 ply it's power †.

On the summit of a high rock at a little distance are the ruins of the castle. Of this the remains are but few, though sufficient to indicate that it has never been a building of any great extent. Leland ‡ says, “The town of Hope,

* Gibson's Camden, p. 688. † Pennant, I. 432.

‡ Itinerary, V. 39.

“ now

Caer Gawr Lle, Camp of 20. Legio of 20. Gowers.

" now decayid, was sumtime burgesid and
" privileged, and ys caullid in Walsch
" Cairgorles. Ther stond yet grete
" waulles of a castle set on an hylle,
" wher be diggid good mille stones of
" a blue grit."

The composition of the rock is somewhat curious, the grit being so exceedingly coarse as to have much the appearance of pebbles among mortar. In digging amongst the ruins I was told that some silver and copper coins had been discovered not long before I was here.

The founder of this castle is not known; its construction however sufficiently indicates that it is of British origin. Hopedale, the tract of land in which it is situated, was, in the reign of Owen Gwynedd, in the possession of

Gryffydd

Gryffydd Maelor, one of the Welsh Chieftains.*

Caergwrle Castle, was one of the gifts of Edward I. to David, brother of Llewelyn, last prince of Wales. Whilst he possessed it, Roger de Clifford, Justiciary of Chester, most unjustifiably cut down his woods, and endeavoured to seize on his property; but this he was prevented from doing by the king, to whom several complaints had been made. When David took up arms, with his brother, against the English Monarch, he left a garrison of some strength in the castle, but in the year 1282, after a fortnight's siege, it was surrendered to the King.†

This castle was excepted from the grant which Edward made to John, Earl Warren, of the lands of one of the

* Powel's History of Wales, p. 211. Owen Gwynedd, was Prince of Wales from 1137 to 1169.

† Powel, p. 350. Camden's Britannia.

sions of Madoc ap Gryffydd,* and with the tract of land in which it is situated, was by him annexed to Flintshire, in which county it remained till Henry VIII. separated it, and added it to Denbighshire. It was however not long afterwards restored to its proper county.

Edward I. on the surrender of the garrison that David had left in it, bestowed the castle upon his Consort, Eleanor, from which circumstance it acquired the name of Queen Hope.† She lodged here in her way to Caernarvon, where the king had sent her to give to the Welsh, a prince, a native of their own country. Not long after this time it appears to have been burnt by a casual fire.‡

Edward the second, in the first year of his reign, granted this castle and Ma-

* Carte's History of England, II. 193.

† Camden's Britannia.

‡ Pennant's Tour, I. 434.

nor to John de Cromwell, on condition, that he should repair the castle, at that time in a ruinous state.* Some years afterwards they were given to Sir John Stanley.†

Hope received it's first charter from Edward, the Black Prince, in the year 1351, who ordered that the constable of the castle for the time being, should be the mayor, who was, after taking the sacrament, to swear on the Holy Evangelists that he would preserve the privileges of the burgesses granted in the charter, and that he would chuse out of them on Michaelmas-day, annually, two bailiffs. Most of the other advantages granted in the charters of those times were added; all which were afterwards confirmed by Richard the Second. Caergwrle and Hope, in conjunction with

* Dugdale's Baronage, II. 44.

+ Pennant, I. 435.

Flint, Caerwys, Rhyddln and Overton, send a Member to parliament.*

The river Alun divides Caergwrle from its parish of Hope, whose church, a respectable looking building, is dedicated to St. Cynfar.

In this parish are some extensive lime quarries, in which is frequently found a species of Fossil, rather uncommon, called *Entrochi*; its shape is somewhat cylindrical, generally about an inch long, and made up of a number of round joints.

Churchyard† has left us the following lines on Caergwrle.

+ Caergoorley comes, right now to passe my pen,
With ragged waulles yea all to rent and torne :
As though it had been never knowne to men,
Or carelesse left, as wretched thing forlorn ;
Like beggar bare, as naked as my nail,
It lies along, whose wreck doth none bewayle.

When I left Caergwrle, I went not along the usual road to Mold, but on one that

* Pennant, I. 436.

† Worthies of Wales, p. 122.

runs on the south west of the little river Alun, by which means I had an opportunity of seeing Plâs Teg, a most singularly built house belonging to the family of the Trevors. It is square, and at each corner has a square wing which is five stories high. This house was built by Sir John Trevor, in the year 1610.

Mold is a small market town, consisting principally of one long and wide street. The church is a neat building ornamented all round the top of the walls with gothic carvings of animals. The body was erected in the reign of Henry VII. but the tower is of a more modern construction, though built in imitation of and very much resembling it. The pillars in the inside are light and elegant, and between the arches are figures of angels bearing shields, having on some of them arms, probably of the benefac-

nefactors, and on others some other ornaments.

The monument of Richard Davies, Esq. of Llanerch, who died in the year 1728, is very good. He is represented in a standing attitude, but the nose of the figure has unluckily been knocked off by some mischievous boy, who happened to throw a stone through the window whilst at play in the church-yard.

The Epitaph on Dr. Wynne, who was buried here, contains in it an unusual degree of eccentricity.

WILLIAM WYNNE OF TOWER, D. D.

Sometime fellow of All Souls College, in Oxford,
departed this life 3^d. March, 1776,

Aged 77.

In conformity to antient usage;
from a proper regard to decency,
and a concern for the health of his
fellow-creatures, he was moved to give
particular directions for being buried
in the adjoining church-yard,
and not in the church.

And as he scorned flattering of others
while living, he has *takē* care to prevent

being flattered himself when dead,
by causing this small memorial to be
set up in his Life-time.

GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER.

In this church is also an ancient mural monument, of Robert Warton, of Parfew, who was Abbot of Bermondsey, and afterwards, in 1536, made Bishop of St. Asaph. He was interred at Hereford, but having been a great benefactor to the church of Mold, this monument was erected by one John ap Rhys, as a grateful memorial of his beneficence.

From the church-yard, I was shewn a lofty mount called the Bailey hill,* on which the castle of Mold formerly stood. Of this building, there are not now, I believe, the smallest remains; the hill

* " At the north end of Byly streate, appere ditches and hilles yn token of an ancient castel or building there. It is now caullid *Mold Brynbyl*."

Leland's Itin. V. 35.
was

was planted at the top and round the bottom, with larches and other shrubs. This place was anciently called Yr Wyddgrûg and Mons Altus, both of which have the same signification, a *lofty mount.*

The castle appears to have been founded sometime during the reign of William Rufus, by Robert Monthault, the son of Ralph, high steward of Chester, who from the place received his name of Monthault, or, De Monte Alto.*

In the year 1144, it was taken and demolished by Owen Gwynedd, Prince of Wales.† Soon after this it must have been again rebuilt, for in the winter of 1198, it was seized by Llewelyn ap Jorwerth.‡ Again it must have got

* Dugdale's Baronage, I. 527.

† Powel's History of Wales, p. 199.

‡ Pennant, I. 424.

into the hands of the English, for about fifty years afterwards, it was once more besieged and taken by the Welsh, under their leader David, Prince of Wales, and the whole garrison cruelly murdered. Roger de Monthault, the owner, escaped their fury, by happening to be away at the time.* In 1267 Gryffydd ap Gwenwynwyn, besieged it a fourth time, and destroyed it.†

Sir Gryffydd Llwyd, who was for sometime a strenuous friend to the English under Edward I. but probably, on account of some oppressions he suffered under the English officers, deserted their cause, and in 1322 having joined the Welsh, attempted amongst other things to siege the castle, but was defeated and taken prisoner.‡

* Mathew Paris, p. 576. Matt. Westm. p. 190. Holinshed's Chronicle, II. 236.

† Powel, p. 326. Wynne, p. 279.

‡ Powel, p. 383. Holinshed's Chron. II. 329.

In 1327 the last Baron Monthault, having no male issue, conveyed the castle to Isabel, the Queen of Edward II. for life; and afterwards to John, of Eltham, a younger brother of Edward III. who dying without issue, it reverted, along with his possessions, to the crown.

The Lordship was sometime afterwards granted to the Stanley family. The Earls of Derby possessed it till the execution of Earl James, after which it was, with the Manor of Hope, purchased by certain persons, who enjoyed them till the restoration. In the year 1664, after the civil wars, the Earl of Derby agreed to pay eleven thousand pounds to be put into full possession of these Manors, but falling off from his agreement, the King ordered that the former purchasers should retain the possession. The Derby family by some means regained

gained the Lordship of Hope, but that of Mold was lost to them for ever.*

2? #
p. 57,
ns -

About a mile west of Mold, not far from Rhual, the seat of the Griffith family, is a place which to this day retains the name of Maes Garmon, *the field of Garmon or Germanus*, where in Easter week 448, was fought a most celebrated battle, between the joint forces of the Picts and Scots, against the Britons, headed by the Bishops Germanus and Lupus, who had but two years before been sent into this kingdom. Previous to their engagement, Germanus instructed them to attend to the word he gave and repeat it throughout the army. Accordingly when the forces approached he pronounced ALLELUIA, the priests repeated it thrice, and afterwards the voices of the whole army echoed forth the sacred sound. The hills reverberated the cry, and the enemy affrighted

* Pennant's Tour, I. 426.

and trembling fled on every side. They were nearly all destroyed, some falling by the sword, and others perishing in the adjoining river. From this circumstance the victory has ever since been called *Victoria Alleluia*.

A pyramidal stone column erected on the spot, in the year 1736, by the late Nehemiah Griffith, Esq. of Rhual, commemorates the event in the following inscription.

Ad Annum
+ CCCXX

Saxones Pictiq. bellum adversus
Britones junctis viribus susciperunt
In hac regione, hodie. MAES GARMON
Appellata: cum in præluim descenditur,
Apostolicis Britonum ducibus GERMANO
Et LUPO, CHRISTUS militabat in castris;
ALLELUIA tertio repetitum exclamabant;
Hostile agmen terroie prosternitur;
Trumphant
Hostibus fusis sine sanguine;
Palmâ fide non viribus obtentâ.

M. P.

IN VICTORIA ALLELUIATICA memoriam.

N. G.

MDCXXXVI.

Mr.

Mr. Pennant,* as well as Mr. Griffith, in the above inscription seems to have mistaken the date of this action, which certainly does not appear to have taken place so early as 420. Matthew of Westminster, from whom I extracted the above account of it, says expressly, that it was in 448, and that Germanus and Lopus did not arrive in this kingdom till about two years preceding.† He mentions nothing of the Saxons being engaged in it, nor does it appear very likely that they should, since their army was only introduced by Vortigern in the subsequent year. I do not think the observations made by Mr. Pennant, from Archbishop Usher, that the Saxons here engaged *might* have been such as came over prior to the invitation of

* Tour, l. 437.

† Flores Hist. 152, 153, 154. In Rymer's Fœdera, I. 443, it is said to have taken place about the year 447.

Vortigern, upon some predatory excursion, can hold good, when such evidence both direct and circumstantial is brought against them. The arrival of the Saxons prior to that period, seems of much less importance in the proof than the arrival of the Bishops, which certainly appears to have taken place in 446, twenty six years after the generally supposed time of the event.

CHAP. VI.

FROM MOLD TO RUTHIN.—GWYSANNEY
—DENBIGH—CASTLE—FINE VIEW—
WHITCHURCH—VALE OF CLWYD—
LLANRHAIAADR—WELL—CHURCH—IN-
SCRIPTION—RUTHIN—GAOL—CHURCH
AND CASTLE.

NOT far from Mold, I passed at a little distance Gwysanney, the seat of the family of Davies. The house is ancient,
but

but its situation very pleasant. In the civil wars, it was accounted sufficiently strong to be garrisoned for the King, but it was taken by Sir William Brereton, in April 1645.*

From Northop, I retraced my former route through Holywell and St. Asaph towards Denbigh. My reason for doing this was, that when I before visited these places, I had not been so accurate in my Journal as I wished; I therefore made this second visit, that I might complete it, which I did, and consolidated its contents into my former description of them.

The walk from St. Asaph to Denbigh,† I did not find by any means so pleasant as I had expected, from its ly-

* Whitelock's Memorials, p. 142.

† The county of Denbigh, is about 40 miles long, 20 broad and 130 in circumference. It contains about 410,000 acres of land, and 38,000 inhabitants; is divided into 18 hundreds and 57 parishes, and has five market towns.

ing entirely along the vale of Clwyd. The road was low, and the vale so wide, that it was only now and then that I could get any prospect at all. A woody dell, watered by the river Elwy, and ornamented with a gentleman's seat or two, pleasingly situated amongst the trees, on it's rising bank, afforded a picturesque scene on the right of the road, about three miles from St. Asaph.

The town of Denbigh,* which was hidden by the mountains, till I came within a mile of it, is situated upon a hill whose summit is seen crowned by the fine ruins of it's castle, nearly in the middle of the vale of Clwyd. The streets are all, except one, very irregular, and the houses ill built. I wandered up to the

* Denbigh was anciently called *Castell Kledwyn yn Rhôs*, or the craggy hill in Rhos, the former name of the tract in which it is seated. *Dinbeck*, the present Welsh appellation, signifies a small hill, which it is when compared with the neighbouring mountains. *Pennant's Tour, II. 37.*

castle,

castle, before I fought out an inn, but from the great number of turns in the narrow streets, I found some difficulty in reaching it, though I could keep it in sight nearly the whole time. A late Tourist* has remarked, that it has been thought, from it's situation, to resemble Edinburgh; but though some slight traces of similarity may be found, he thinks the boldness of the position of Edinburgh, and the grandeur of it's surrounding objects, far surpass every thing here.

The entrance into the castle is through a large Gothic arch, which was formerly flanked by two octagonal towers, both now in ruins. Over the gate, in an ornamental nich, is a figure of it's founder, Henry de Lacy, sitting in his robes of state; and over another gate,

* Henry Skrine, Esq. of Warley in Somersetshire.

to the left of this (long since destroyed) was a statue of his wife, Margaret, the daughter of William Longspec, Earl of Salisbury. This castle has once been a most extensive building, and from the strength and thickness of it's walls, must have been almost impregnable by every thing except artillery.

The breaches shew the mode of their construction ; two walls, occupying the extremities of the intended thickness, were first built in the ordinary manner with a vacuity betwixt them, into which was poured a mixture of hot mortar and rough stones of all sizes, which on cooling consolidated into a mass as hard as stone. This kind of building was called grouting.

Within the castle walls is a chapel of ease to the parish church, which is at Whitchurch, about a mile distant. This is dedicated to St. Hilarius, and was formerly

merly the chapel to the garrison. Here is also part of the body of a church, which was begun in 1579, by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, one of Queen Elizabeth's favourites; but after he had, by his tyrannical conduct, incurred the hatred of the people, he left it off in its present unfinished state.

From this hill is a view of all the country for many miles round. Here the vale, in all its pastoral beauty, is spread before the eye, and the bounding mountains well contrast their naked barren sides with the pleasing scene of fertility between them.

David, having had a most serious quarrel with his brother Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, found himself under the necessity of flying to the English court for protection. Edward I, very probably from motives of policy, kindly received him, and gave to him the lordship of

Denbigh,

Denbigh, with lands to the value of a thousand marks per annum, in recompence for lands in Anglesea which ought to have belonged to him, but which the King had secured to Llewelyn for life.*

After the death of Llewelyn, David intending to take the crown of Wales, immediately summoned the Welsh to appear in Parliament at Denbigh; † but, not long after this event, being taken prisoner by the English, he was executed for high treason.

The King now granted this lordship to Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, who began the castle, and fortified the town with a strong wall; ‡ but his son having

* Tho. Walsingham, p. 7.—Holinshed's Chron. II. 279.

† Hen. de Knyghton, p. 2465.

“ Dauyd yt was ye p'nce broyer of Walys yorouge prude
 “ weude haue ben p'nce of Walys after his broyrs dethe &
 “ upon yat he fente after Walshemen to his plement at Dyne-
 “ begge and follyche made Walys rise agene ye kynge and
 “ beganne to mence werre agene ye kynge.” MS. in the

X Library of St. Peter's College, Cambridge.

‡ Stowe's Annals, p. 203.—Speed's Maps, Ch. XII,
 fol. 119. by

by accident fallen into the well and been killed, he was so much afflicted by the misfortune, that the work was immediately neglected; and Leland says, the body or inside was never finished.*

Lacy granted to the inhabitants several privileges which they had not before possessed, one of which was the liberty of taking and killing all kinds of wild beasts on the lordship, except in certain districts and parks reserved for his own amusement.†

After the death of this Earl, the castle and lordship devolved to Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, who had married Alicia his daughter, from whom, after his attainder, they went by the bounty of Edward II. to Hugh D' Espencer, who proved an oppressive superior, and

* Leland's Itin. V. 56—58.

† Pennant, II. 37; who quotes Scbright MSS.

abridged the inhabitants of many of the privileges granted to them by Lacy.* Upon the execution of D' Espencer they again escheated to the crown, and were by Edward III. given to Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, in exchange for lands to the value of a thousand pounds per annum, which he surrendered to the King,† whose attainder and execution enabled the King not long after to grant them to Sir William Montacute, afterwards created Earl of Salisbury, who had been a most zealous and active man in the service of the state‡. He died in 1333; and, on the reversal of the attainder of the Earl of March, they were restored to his grandson Roger;§ and by the marriage of Ann, sister to Roger, the last Earl of March, with Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cambridge, they

* Pennant, II. 37. + Dugdale's Baronage, I. 145.

‡ Ibid, I. 147, 645, 647. § Ibid, I. 148.

came into the house of York, and so to the crown*.

In the reign of Henry VI. Denbigh Castle appears to have been seized by the Yorkists; for in Dugdale I find that the King, in the year 1459, granted to Jasper, Earl of Pembroke, and the Duke of Bedford, a thousand marks, to be paid out of the lordships of Denbigh and Radnor, in consideration of their services in recovering it from the hands of his adversaries.†

In 1563 Elizabeth bestowed the castle and lordship on her favourite Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester,‡ who raised the rents from two to nine hundred a year, and arbitrarily inclosed several of the waste lands. This caused an insurrection, for which two of the insurgents were executed at Shrewsbury: the

* Dugdale's Baronage, I. 151. † Ibid, II. 241.

‡ Camden, p. 680, who has given us an account nearly of all the above descents.

Queen, however, to allay these disputes, thought it necessary, by a charter, to confirm the quiet possession to the tenants. They were again excited, in the reign of William III. on account of a vast grant that had been made to the Earl of Portland, but they were again hushed by the same means that had been used in the former reign. At present they are in the crown, and superintended by a steward appointed by the King.*

Leland† says, that in his time the castle was very large and had many towers in it. The entrance was remarkably strong; but, as well as the interior of the castle, had never been perfectly finished. He relates, that “King Edward IV. was besegid in Denbigh Castelle, and ther it was pactid by-

* Pennant's Tour, II. 38; and Grose's Antiquities.

† Itin. V. 58.

“ twene King Henry’s men and hym,
“ that he should with life departe the
“ reaulme never to returne. If they
“ had taken King Edward there *debel-*
“ *latum fuisse.**”

In September 1645, this castle must have been in a tolerable state of repair, for Charles I. after his retreat from Chester, lodged here in a tower, which is still called the King’s Tower. About a month subsequent to this, the armies of the King and parliament had a desperate engagement near Denbigh. Sir William Brereton having had informa-

* Mr. Pennant (Vol. II, p. 41) seems to have mistaken this passage, for he says, “ Leland relates a particular of this fortress which I do not discover in any historian : he says “ that Edward IV. was besieged in it ; and that he was permitted to retire, on condition that he should quit the kingdom for ever.” The expression “ It was pactid by- “ twene King Henry’s men and hym” appears to have related not to any agreement between Edward and the army of Henry, but to the concerted agreement betwixt Henry and his own men, either before, or while they attacked the place ; and the next passage, “ If they had taken, &c.” seems to clear up every doubt.

tion that Sir William Vaughan was collecting forces about Denbigh for the King, with the intention of relieving Chester, then besieged, sent General Mytton and Colonel Jones, with fourteen hundred horse and a thousand foot, against him: Vaughan, with two thousand men, was attacked; and, after a most spirited defence, was routed, with the loss of about a hundred men killed and near three hundred taken prisoners.*

In 1646, the castle was in the hands of the Royalists; and Colonel William Salisbury, commonly called *Blue Stockings*, was the governor. It was besieged by Mytton in July, but did not surrender till November, and then on honourable terms.† After the restoration of Charles II. it is said to have been blown up.

* Whitelock's Memorials, p. 179.—Rushworth's Historical Coll. Part IV. Vol. I. p. 136.

† Whitelock, p. 216, 226.

The best description of Denbigh Castle, in it's ~~present~~^{anci} state, is in the undorned lines of Churchyard.*

A strength of state ten tymes as strong as fair,
Yet faire and fine with *double* walls full thicke
Like Terrace trim to take the open air,
Made of freestone and not of burned bricke :
No building there, but such as man might say,
The worke thereof would last till Judgment Day.

The seate so sure, not subject to a hill,
Nor yet to myne, nor force of cannon blast :
Within that house may people walke at will
And stand full safe till danger all be past :
If cannon roar'd, or bark'd against the wall,
Friends there may say, a figge for enemies all;
Five men within may keep out numbers greate
(In furious fort that shall approach that seate.
And as this seate the castle strongly stands
Past winning sure with engine, sword, or hands ;
So lookes it o'er the country farre or neere,
And shines like torch and lanterne of the sheere.

At the east end of the town of Denbigh stood once a house of Carmelite, or White Friars, dedicated to St. Mary, and founded, according to some, by John Salisbury, who died 1289; but, according to others, by John de Suni-

* Worthies of Wales, p. 124.

more in 1399.* I am unable to say whether any of this building is yet left, not having known, when I was here, of any religious house that had been founded at Denbigh.

With respect to the town, Leland † says that there had been many streets within the walls, but that in his time these were nearly all destroyed, and that the number of householders then scarcely exceeded eighty. Whether this decay arose from a dislike taken by the inhabitants to its steep situation, which rendered carriage inconvenient, or from the want of water, it is not known. It was however gradually abandoned in such a manner, that at length the old town became quite deserted, and one much more convenient arose at the bottom of the rock. The walls appear, like the castle, to have been of great strength; they had only two gates, the one called

* Tanner's *Noticia Monastica*.

† *Itin. V.* 56.

the

the Exchequer, and the other the Burgeſſes Gate. The firſt was on the weſt ſide, and in it the Lords' courts were held; and the other, on the north, had the Burgeſſes' courts holden in it. Beſides theſe there were only four towers in the walls, from one of which, about eighty years before his time, Leland relates that the lead was torn in a ſtorm, and carried through the air for near a mile, almost as far as Whitchurch.

Richard II. made this place into a free borough, and Queen Elizabeth formed here a body corporate, conſiſting of two aldermen, two bailiffs, two coroners, and twenty-five of the higher claſs of burgeſſes, which were called capital burgeſſes, a recorder, and inferior officers.*

Whitchurch, about a mile diſtant, is a white-waſhed ſtructure, dedicated to

* Pennant, II. 45,

St. Marcellus. In this church were interred Sir Richard Middleton, Governor of Denbigh Castle, under Edward VI, Mary, and Elizabeth, who died in 1575, and Humphrey Lloyd, the antiquary, to whose memory is erected a mural monument, containing a figure of himself in the attitude of prayer.

The approach ~~from~~^{to} Denbigh ~~to~~^{from} Whitchurch is much more grand and august than on any other side. There the castle is seen finely situated on the summit of its rock, which being almost perpendicular gives one a good idea of the ancient strength of the place. In this point of view the accompanying scenery was more open and varied than from any other situation that I was in.

I was highly delighted with my ramble from Denbigh to Ruthin, still along the vale of Clwyd. The views all the way were of the fine, rich, and here

here picturesque vale, bounded at a distance by the Clwyddian hills. The day was extremely favourable; it was dark and hot, and the rolling clouds that hung heavily in the atmosphere tinged the mountains with their *sombre* shade, which gave a richness to the scenes scarcely to be described.

*Village of
Llanrhaiadr.*

I arrived at Llanrhaiadr, *the Village of the Fountain*, which is situated on a small eminence in the middle of this fertile vale. It takes it's name from a spring, about a quarter of a mile from the church, called Ffynnon Dyfnog, where there was a bath, and formerly a chapel, dedicated to St. Dyfnog. Leland * mentions it:—“ Fynnon Dunoc, or St. Du-
“ noc's Well, is a mighty spring that
“ maketh a broke running scant a myle.
“ There is in the east end of Llan-
“ Rhaidr parish very goodly corn and

* Itin. V. 54, 58.

“ grasse,

“ grasse, but by the south-west end, it
“ is barren and boggy.”

The church is a handsome structure, with a large and rather elegant east window, in which is a painting of the genealogy of Christ from Jesse. The patriarch is represented sprawling upon his back, with the genealogical tree springing from his stomach. I was wandering carelessly in the church-yard, when I met by chance with a tombstone, on which was engraved the following inscription.

Heare lyeth THE body of
John, ap Robert of Porth, ap
David, ap Griffith, ap David
Vaughan, ap Blethyn, ap
Griffith, ap Meredith,
ap Jerworth, ap Llewelyn,
ap Jeroth, ap Heilin, ap
Cowryd, ap Cadvan, ap
Alawgwa, ap Cadell, THE
King of Powis: who
departed THIS life THE
xx. day of March, in THE
year of our Lord God
1643, and of
his age xciv.

I now

I now proceeded on my journey, and found the scenery, all the way to Ruthin,* was extremely beautiful. This place, like Denbigh and St. Asaph, is pleasantly situated on a considerable eminence nearly in the middle of the vale of Clwyd. At a little distance, behind the town, the mountains seem to close up the end of the vale. In different parts round about it I had several fine prospects of the adjacent country. I here crossed the little river Clwyd, scarcely three yards over, which I had not before noticed since I left St. Asaph. The town is large and tolerably populous; it has two markets in the week, the one on Saturday for meat, and the other on Monday chiefly for corn. At this place is a county gaol for Denbighshire, which is a neat, and I believe well-constructed

* This name is derived from the British word *Rhudd*, red, and *Dinas*, a fort, which signifies a red fort or encampment.

building; and the Great Sessions are held here, probably from the situation being more central than that of Denbigh.

The church was originally conventional, belonging to a house of Bonhommes, a species of Augustine monks; this was made collegiate in 1310, by John, son of Reginald de Grey, Lord of the Cantred of Dyffryn Clwyd, who having endowed it with two hundred and five acres of land and several privileges, established here seven regular priests, one of whom was to serve in the chapel at the castle. In this state it probably continued till the dissolution; but there is no valuation of it either in Dugdale or Speed.* The apartments of the priests were joined to the church by a cloister, part of which is built up, and

* Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*.—Dugdale's *Monasticon*, III. 58.

now serves as the mansion of the warden. The tower is of a date much later than the other parts of the building.

Leland,* but without giving any particulars, says there were once white friars at Ruthin in Dyffryn Clwyd; Mr. Pennant thinks their house may have stood in the street, to this day called the Prior's Street.

The inhabitants of this place join with Holt, in returning a member to Parliament.

The castle was situated on the north side of, and nearly on a level with the town. Of this, the present remains are only a few foundations of walls, and the fragments of one or two of the towers, some of which appear to have been of a great thickness. The stone used in building it was red, from whence the place was called Rhudd Ddin (or Dinas) *the*

* Itin. V. 42.

red fort. On the area of the castle is at present a meadow, and in another part a five's-court and bowling-green. From these walls is an elegant view of the vale.

This town and castle appear to have been the work of Reginald Grey, second son to Lord Grey de Wilton, to whom Edward I. in 1281, had given nearly the whole of the vale, for his active services against the Welsh. The posterity of the founder, who bore the title of Earls of Kent, made this lordship the place of their residence till the time of Earl Richard, who, being without children, and having dissipated his fortune by gambling, sold it to Henry VII.* From this time, the castle being unroofed was falling fast into decay, till it was, with large revenues in the vale,

* Pennant, II. p. 61.

bestowed by the bounty of Queen Elizabeth, on Ambrose, Earl of Warwick.*

In 1400, during a fair that was held here, the town of Ruthin was set on fire and burnt by Owen Glyndwr, who, after having plundered the merchants, retired amongst the mountains. This act was committed in revenge for Lord Grey's having, some years before, seized part of his land, which lay contiguous with his own.†

In the civil wars, the castle held out for the King till February, 1645-6, when it was attacked, and, after a siege of near two months, surrendered to General Mytton.‡ Colonel Mason was made Governor; but he did not possess it long, for it was ordered in the same year, by the Parliament, to be dismantled.§

* Gibson's Camden, p. 681.

† Carte's History of England, II. 650.

‡ Whitelock's Memorials, p. 192, 201. § Ibid. p. 231.

It

It is thus described by Churchyard,* before it's demolition :

This castle stands on rocke much like red bricke
The dykes are cut with tool through stony cragge,
The towers are high, the walls are large and thick
The worke itself would shake a subject's bagge,
If he were bent to build the like againe :
It rests on mount, and lookes o'er wood and playne,
It hath great store of chambers finely wrought
That tyme alone to great decay hath brought.

It shews within by double walles and ways,
A deep device did first erect the same ;
It makes our world to think on elder days
Because one worke was form'd in such a frame.
One tower or wall the other answers right
As though at call each thing should please the fight :
The rocke wrought round where every tower doth stand
Set foorth full fine by head, by heart and hand.

* Worthies of Wales, p. 118.

CHAP. VII.

FROM RUTHIN TO LLANGOLLEN.—VALE OF CRUCIS—PILLAR OF ELISEG—VALLE CRUCIS ABBEY—LLANGOLLEN—CHURCH AND BRIDGE—CASTELL DINAS BRÂN—EXTENSIVE VIEWS—CRAIG EGLWYSEG—VALE OF LLANGOLLEN—AQUEDUCT AT PONT Y CYSSYLLTE—INN AT LLANGOLLEN.

SOON after I left Ruthin, the clouds began to collect, and a small drizzly rain came on, which lasted till I arrived within four miles of Llangollen. This caused me to lose some views from the high mountains that form the barrier on the eastern side of the vale of Elwyd, over which the road winds; for I was so enveloped in clouds and mist, that, for above five miles of my journey, I could scarcely discern objects that were twenty yards before me.

About

About ten miles from Ruthin, I descended into the vale of Crucis, called also the vale of Glisseg, one of the most beautifully secluded situations in the kingdom, surrounded by high mountains and abrupt rocks, towering rudely into the air. The bottoms of these were, in many parts, covered with wood and verdure. In this vale are seated the venerable remains of Llan Egwest, or Valle Crucis Abbey ; and from the road, at a little distance, the fine Gothic west end, embowered in trees, and backed by the mountain, on whose summit stands the shattered ruins of Castell Dinas Brân, forms a scene finely picturesque. The adjoining rocks were enlivened by the browsing flocks which were scattered along their sides, and by

“ Kites that swim sublime
In still repeated circles screaming loud.”

Whilst from below I was entertained with

“ — the cheerful sound
Of woodland harmony, that always fills
The merry vale between.”

The rugged and woody banks of the Dee upon my proceeding forward, soon added a fresh interest to this beautiful retreat. The vale extends nearly to Llangollen ; and, at the distance of about a mile, the town, with it's church and elegant bridge, romantically embosomed in mountains, whose rugged summits pierced the clouds, came, as additional features, into the landscape.

To these elegant scenes, the dirty, ill-looking town, having scarcely a good house within it, formed afterwards a most wretched contrast.

The bridge, which consists of five narrow pointed arches, was erected before 1357 by John Trevor, Bishop of St.

St. Asaph. It is built on a rock, where it would seem almost impossible to fix a foundation sufficiently firm to withstand the furious rapidity of the current, which has worn the broad shelving masses to a black and glossy polish.

In the church, I found nothing deserving of attention. The name of its patron saint, Mr. Pennant tells us, is *Collen ap Gwynnawg, ap Clidawg, ap Cowrda, ap Caradog, Freichpas ap Llyr Merim, ap Einion Yrb, ap Cunedda Wledig*, who has left a legend behind him worthy of the Koran itself. From the church-yard, the lofty mountains, on one of which is Castell Dinas Brân, and the woody banks of the Dee, whose rapid stream winds along the valley, form a scene by no means inelegant.

About a quarter of a mile from Llangollen is Plâs Newydd, the charming retreat of Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss

Pon-

Ponsonby. It is situated on the south side of the vale of Llangollen, and commands a fine mountain-prospect.

The vale of Crucis is indebted for it's name to the cross or pillar, which is in a meadow near the abbey, by the second mile-stone from Llangollen, called the Pillar of Elifeg; though Buck has derived it from a piece of the true cross, said to have been given by the religious of the abbey to Edward I.* who, in return for so great a favour, granted them several immunities.

This pillar is very ancient; it appears to have been erected above a thousand years ago, in memory of Elifeg (the father of Brochmail, Prince of Powys, who was slain in the battle of Chester, in 607) by Concenn or Congen, his great-grandson. The inscription is at

* Matt. Westm. p. 371.

present



present illegible.* It was once twelve feet long, but having been thrown down and broken sometime during the civil wars, it's upper part only is now left, which is about seven feet in length. After the civil wars it lay neglected for several years, till at last Mr. Lloyd, of Trevor Hall, the owner of the land in which it stands, in the year 1779, caused this part of so valuable a relic of antiquity to be raised from obscurity, and placed once more on its pedestal.

Valle Crucis, or Llan Egwest Abbey, about a quarter of a mile from this pillar, is a grand and majestic ruin, affording some elegant specimens of the ancient Gothic architecture. Miss Seward

* Mr. Edward Llwyd copied it when it was in a more perfect state. In the additions to Camden, Vol. II. p. 582, there is a copy of a letter, dated 14th September, 1696, from him to Mr. Wanley upon this subject.

addresses it in language finely poetical and descriptive :

'Say, wild Valle Crucis, time decayed
Dim on the brink of Deva's wandering flood,
Your riv'd arch glimmering thro' the tangled glade,
Your gay hills towering o'er your night of wood,
Deep in the vale's recesses as you stand,
And desolately great the rising sigh command.

Of the church are still left the east and west ends, and the south transept. In the west end is a round arched door, and over it, in a round arch, are three lancet windows ; and, above these again, a circular or marigold one, with eight divisions. The other end has three long lancets nearly from the ground, and over them two others, all very much ornamented within. This end, from the style of it's architecture, has the appearance of somewhat higher antiquity than the other. The cloister on the south side, which was only a shell in Buck's time, is now converted into a dwelling house, which

which is the residence of a farmer. Three rows of groined arches, on single round pillars, support the dormitory, now a loft, approached by steps from without. The floors are here so thick, from their being arched underneath, that when the doors are shut, and the men are threshing the corn in the room over the kitchen, they cannot be heard below. Part of a chimney, in one of the bed-chambers, is a relic of a sepulchral monument.

The ornaments to the pillars and arches are of free-stone, and many parts of them are perfectly fresh and beautiful. The area of the church is overgrown with tall ash-trees, which hide some parts of the ruin, but add much to its picturesque beauty.

I doe love these auncient ruynes,
We never tread upon them but we set
One foote upon some reverend history;
And questionles here in this open court

(Which

(Which now lies naked to the injuries
 Of stormy weather) some men lye interred,
 Loved the church soe well, and gave so largely to't,
 They thought it should have canopide their bones
 Till Dombesday ; but all things have their end ;
 Churches and cities (which have diseases like to men)
 Must have like death that we have.

Webster's Duchess of Malfy.

In this solemn and peaceable retreat, how grand must have been the deep toned organ's swell, the loud anthem of a hundred voices rolling through these roofs, and penetrating the hallowed grove ! What devotion would not rise upon Enthusiasm's wings, when it heard the toll of a vesper bell undulating with the breeze. Even now, when all these heaven-inspiring sounds have ceased, does memory recur to them ; and fancy peoples the gloom with all it's former inhabitants. This sober shade

" Lets fall a serious gloom upon the mind
 That checks but not appals. Such are the haunts
 Religion loves, a meek and humble maid,
 Whose tender eye bears not the blaze of day."

This was a house of Cistertians, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and founded about the year 1200, by Madoc ap Gryffydd, Prince of Powys, and Grandson, by the mother's side, to Owen Gwynedd, Prince of Wales. He was afterwards interred here.* At the dissolution, the revenues were valued, according to Dugdale, at a hundred and eighty-eight pounds, eight shillings ; and according to Speed, at two hundred and fourteen pounds, three shillings, and five pence, per annum.†

I will conclude my account of this abbey, by quoting a passage from Mr. Grose,‡ of which I dare say every one will be ready to give his judgment in his own way.

After remarking that on these buildings are divers characters, but many of

* Powel, p. 255—293.

† Tanner's Not. Monast.

‡ Antiquities of England and Wales.

them

them so defaced as to be illegible, he says, "The following account and interpretation of some that are more perfect, was kindly communicated by Mr. Griffiths of the Navy-Office, most of these houses were founded by an injunction from the Popes, by way of penance, upon some great Lords of those times, for what the Holy Church judged infringements on her prerogative, or for some crime which those fathers of the church knew full well how to avail themselves of. Taking the matter in this light, and from the Welsh name of the place, the inscription upon the ruins will be intelligible. The characters are Mafo-Gothic, and Franco-Theotiscan mixt. MD H OO HR BMSPOE ac hō aPOuS ÷ PRO BHQV OES CM G RQO. The first double letters I take to be MAD. or Madocus; H. hoc; f " OO.

“ OO. Monasterium ; HR. Honori ; B.
“ Beatae ; M. Mariæ ; S. Sanctæ ; P.
“ Penitens ; OE. CEdificavit ; ac. et ;
“ hθ. hoc ; aP. appropriavit ; OuS. opus ;
“ PRO. pro ; B. bono ; HQV. hospitioq ;
“ OES. ejusdem ; CM. centum marcas ;
“ GR. gratis ; Q. quoq ; O. ordinavit.
“ In English, Madoc a penitent, erected
“ this monastery to the honor of the
“ blessed and holy Virgin, and appro-
“ priated for this work, and for the
“ better maintenaice thereof, an hun-
“ dred marks, which he freely settled
“ on them.” The hundred marks I
“ suppose he settled on them as annual
“ payment.”

Castell Dinas Brân is situated on a high and rather conical hill, just opposite to, and about a mile from Llangollen. This hill is towards the top so steeply sloped on almost every side, as to render the walk to the castle rather fa-

tiguing. The building appears to have been about three hundred feet long, and half that in breadth, occupying the whole crown of the mountain ; and, from it's extremely elevated situation, must have been a place of great strength. On the side which is the least steep, it was defended by trenches cut through the solid rock. The present remains are but a few shattered walls, and these are going fast to decay. The views from hence are very grand on every side. Towards the east I could look quite along the whole vale of Llangollen, through which the Dee was seen to foam over his bed of rocks ; and beyond it, all the flat and highly cultivated country, for many miles. Just beneath me lay the town of Llangollen. Towards the west I had the vale of Crucis, and the mountains beyond it, whose dark sides were agreeably intermingled with wood and meadow.

dow. On the north-west I was much struck with the singular appearance of a vast rock, called *Craig Eglwyseg*, or *the Eagle's rock*,* from the tradition of some eagles having formerly had their aerie here. Leland† seems to have mistaken this for the rock, on which the castle stands, where he says, “there bredith “ every yere an egle. And the egle “ doth sorely assault hym that destroy-“ eth the nest; goying down in one bas-“ ket, and having another over his “ hedde, to defend the sore stripe of the “ egle.” For more than half a mile this rock lies stratum upon stratum in such manner, as to form a kind of steps, parallel with the horizon, which the naturalists call *Saxa sedilia*. The inhabitants of Llangollen say, that somewhere about this rock is an opening,

* Mr. Ed. Llwyd derives it from *Eliseg*.

Rowland's Mon. Ant. p. 312.

† Itin. V. 51.

from whence there is a long arched passage under ground, supposed to lead to the castle. I scarcely gave any credit to this report, for I could not, upon enquiry, hear of any person who had seen it, or who could tell whereabouts it was.

The views from Castell Dinas Brân are, upon the whole, so very extensive and beautiful, that to any person who has not had an opportunity of ascending Snowdon, or Cader Idris, this will be found a tolerable compensation.

This castle, from the style of it's architecture, appears undoubtedly to have been founded by the Britons, and it is believed by some (but probably only from the similarity of names) to have ‡ been built by Brennus, the Gallic General, who is reputed to have come into these parts, to contend with his brother Belinus. This story, however, seems not to be well founded.

Edward

Edward Llwyd says it's name is taken from the mountain river Brân that runs just below it, which seems very probable.*

It was the chief residence of the Lords of *Yale*, and it is not unlikely, that it might be founded by one of them.

In the reign of Henry III. it was the residence of Gryffydd ap Madoc, who, having married Emma, the daughter of James, Lord Audley, his affections were alienated from his country; and he took part with the English against his own Prince, whose resentment forced him to secure himself in this aerial retreat, and confine himself to this castle, where probably grief and shame, not long after, put an end to his life.†

After the death of his son Madoc, the guardianship of his children was given,

* Gough's Camden, II. 585.

† Powel, 194. Pennant, I. 216, 297.

by Edward I. to John, Earl Warren, and Roger Mortimer, who, having destroyed their wards, seized their estates to their own use*. In Warren's share was this castle, which Edward most unjustly confirmed to him.†

{5}

In the 9th of Edward II. it was, with others, surrendered by John, Earl Warren, the grandson, on account of his having no issue, to the King ; but having divorced his wife, he soon after obtained a regrant of the estates to himself, and his mistress, Matilda de Hereford, for life, with remainders to two illegitimate children and their heirs ; but in want of such issue, to return to the King. Matilda, the last survivor, died in the 33rd of Edward III. and therefore at her death they became the property of the crown. They seem to have very shortly afterwards

* Gibson's Camden, p. 682.

+ Pennant, I. 217.

been

been given to Edward Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, and to have followed the succession of the Lords of Bromfield.*

In 1390, Castell Dinas Brân was the habitation of Myfanwy Vechan, a most beautiful and accomplished female, a descendant of the house of Tudor Trevor. She was beloved by Howel ap Eynion Lygliw, a celebrated bard, who addressed to her an ode full of sweetness and beauty.†

'Mid the gay towers on steep Din's Branna's cone,
Her Hoel's breast the fair Myfanwy fires,
Oh! harp of Cambria, never hast thou known,
Notes more mellifluent floating o'er the wires,
Than when thy bard this brighter Laura sung,
And with his ill starr'd love Llangollen's echoes rung.

Thus consecrate to love in ages flown,
Long ages fled, Din's Branna's ruins shew,
Bleak as they stand upon their steepy cone,
The crown and contrast of the vale below,
That screen'd by mutual rocks with pride displays,
Beauty's romantic pomp in every sylvan maze.

* See Holt Castle. † Pennant, I. 298.

When this castle was demolished we have no information; it must however have been very early, for Leland speaks of it, in his time, as being quite in a ruinous state.*

That I might see as much of the beauties of the vale of Llangollen as possible, I determined to walk round it, a circuit of not more than ten or eleven miles. I therefore crossed the bridge and went down the road, on the north side of the river, which leads to Ruabon and Wrexham. The scenery this way was pretty, but from the lowness of the road it afforded nothing very striking. The most beautiful prospects I had by looking back towards the town, where the castle from its great elevation almost always formed a very conspicuous feature, and where I frequently had the

* Itin. V. 51.

Dee peeping in and adding other beauties to the scene. I passed Trevor Hall, the family seat of the Lloyds, finely seated on an eminence above the road.

Having gone rather more than four miles, I turned down a road on the right, and crossed the bridge over the Dee, called Pont y Cyffyllte, where I saw the famous Aqueduct, forming a few hundred yards below it, for conveying the water of the Ellesmere canal, over the river Dee and the vale of Llangollen. At the time I was here there were eleven handsome square stone columns erected, the two of which that stood in the bed of the river, were each about a hundred and twenty feet high. From a tablet on one of them I copied the following inscription, which will sufficiently explain the nature of the undertaking.

The Nobility and Gentry of
the adjacent counties
having united, their efforts with
the great commercial interest of this county,
in creating an intercourse and union, between
England and North Wales,
by a navigable communication of the three rivers,
Severn, Dee, and Mersey,
for the mutual benefit of agriculture and trade,
caused the first stone of this aqueduct of
Pont Cyfyllt_y,
to be laid, on the 25th. day of July, MDCCXCV.
when Richard Middleton of Chirk, Esquire, M. P.
one of the original patrons of the
Ellesmere Canal,
was Lord of this manor,
and in the reign of our sovereign
GEORGE THE THIRD,
when the equity of the laws and
the security of property,
promoted the general welfare of the nation,
while the arts and sciences flourished
by his patronage and
the conduct of civil life, was improved,
by his example.

I returned to Llangollen by the Oswestry road, on the south side of the river; this is considerably elevated above the bottom of the vale, and from hence all the surrounding objects, are seen to great

great advantage. From these steep banks, the Dee's transparent stream is seen to wind in elegant curves, along the woody meadows below. The mountains on the opposite side of the vale were finely varied in shape and colour ; and Trevor Hall, amidst it's woods seated on it's eminence, lent it's aid to decorate the scene. From hence Castell Dinas Brân, and it's conical hill, seemed to close up the end of the vale, and imperiously to command the country around. This sylvan vale, justly celebrated for it's numerous beauties, affords many picturesque and highly romantic scenes.

The Hand is the only tolerably good Inn in Llangollen, but from it's being on one of the great Irish roads, it is, during the summer time, frequently so full of company as to render it very unpleasant. I cannot boast much of the civilities

civilities I received here, either from the Innkeeper, or his Wife; they are both oddities, as every one, who has been at the house a day or two, must know.

CHAP. VIII.

FROM LLANGOLLEN TO CORWEN.—VALE OF CRUCIS—THE VALLEY OF THE DEE—LLANDYSILIO HALL—VIEW FROM A MOUNTAIN NEAR THE ROAD—SITE OF OWEN GLYNDWR'S PALACE—ACCOUNT OF THIS CELEBRATED HERO—CORWEN—ANCIENT MONUMENTS—Y CAER WEN—EXCURSION TO THE CATARACT AT GLYN BRIDGE.

THE whole of the country betwixt Llangollen and Corwen, is highly beautiful. The road, for about a mile, lays along the picturesque vale of Crucis, which is, all the way, enlivened with woods, from whence, in many places, were

were neat little cottages seen peeping from amongst the trees.

Having passed this vale, I entered Glynn Dyfrdwy, *the valley of the Dee*, celebrated for having once been the property of the Welsh hero, Owen Glyndwr. The mountains here are high, and their features bold and prominent, from the winding of the river, and the turnings in the vale, almost every step presented a new landscape.

I passed Llandysilio Hall, the family seat of the Jones's, seated on a woody flat, near the opposite edge of the Dee. From it's situation in the bosom of the mountains, it seemed almost secluded from the world, but it possesses so much beauty around it, that it must be a most charming retreat.

Looking back on the places I had left, I saw Castell Dinas Brân, and it's accompanying rock, Craig Eglwyseg, at the

the head of the vale. The latter forms from hence a conspicuous object.

About half a mile beyond Llandyfilio, I clambered up a lofty hill, gentle of ascent on the left of the road. From the top of this, which I found much higher than I expected, when I only saw it from below, I had a view of the whole of the vale, and all its windings, and its still more surpentinizing river Dee, in its bottom immediately beneath me. Castell Dinas Brân, from hence even seemed below me, and I could carry my eye along the entire vale of Llangollen, and over the flat country beyond, for many miles, till it terminated in the far distant mountains, which bounded the sight.

Soon after I had passed the fourth mile stone, the vale began to change its appearance, and the road, instead of winding amongst mountains, lay nearly

in a line all the way to Corwen, by which much of its beauty was lost to the eye.

About three miles farther on, an oak wood on the left, and a small clump of firs on an eminence on the right, mark the place, near which was the palace of “the wild and irregular” Owen Glyndwr, but of this, except here and there a few scattered stones upon the ground, there are no remains. This celebrated hero,* whose actions make so conspicuous an appearance in our history, at the beginning of the fifteenth century, was the son of Gryffydd Vychan, a descendant of Meredith, Prince of North Wales. He received a liberal education, and when of age sufficient, he came into

* Mr. Pennant, has favored the world with an excellent account of this celebrated character (from which the present has been chiefly extracted) in his Tour in North Wales, Vol. I. p. 325, 392.

England, was entered in one of the Inns of Court, and became a Barrister. It is probable that he soon quitted the profession of the law, and took up that of Arms, which, as it afterwards proved, was much more congenial with his disposition. He espoused the cause of Richard II. to whom he continued a faithful adherent to the last, for he was taken with him in Flint Castle; and when the King's household was dissolved, retired with full resentment of his Sovereign's wrongs, to his patrimony in Wales. It appears, that in the reign of Richard II. he received the honor of Knighthood, as in a trial between Sir Richard Le Scrope, and Sir Robert De Grosvenour, about a coat of arms, he is styled Sir Owen De Glendore.

He married Margaret, the daughter of Sir David Hanmer, of Hanmer in the county of Flint, one of the chief

Justices

Justices of the King's Bench, by whom he had several children.

In the beginning of the reign of Henry IV. he received some serious injuries from Reginald, Lord Grey of Ruthin, who took advantage of the deposal of Richard, for which he applied in vain to the Parliament for redress. His love for his late master, the injustice that he had suffered, and his own ambitious spirit, all conspired to make him desirous of throwing off the Enlish Yoke, and of attempting by force to obtain the government of Wales. He revolved in his mind, his own genealogy, a descendant from the ancient British princes, and being strongly tinctured with superstition, he attached to himself many of the prophecies of Merlin, and of the other old British bards. These, with the dreadful omens that he had been told had happened at his birth,

tended to confirm him in the opinion that he was destined to be the redeemer of his country from their oppressions. Shakespere puts a finely descriptive speech into the character of Glyndwr :

at my birth,
The front of heaven, was full of fiery shapes ;
The goats ran from the mountains, and the herds,
Were strangely clamorous to the frightened fields :
These signs have mark'd me extraordinary,
And the courses of my life do shew
I am not in the roll of common men.

He first appeared in arms, in the year 1400, and began his exploits by attacking Reginald, Lord Grey, who, closely connected with Henry, had some time before, acted so oppressively towards him. He recovered his estates from this man, and after a series of engagements, which lasted upwards of twelve years, he proved himself so formidable an enemy to Henry IV. as at last to have an offer of an accommodation from the English Monarch, which death only deprived

prived him from accepting. He died on the 20th. day of September, 1415, and, as is generally supposed, was buried in the church-yard of Monnington, in the county of Hereford; but there is no monument, or any memorial of the spot, that contains his remains.

Superstition seems to have had a great hold of him, during the whole of his life, and this, together with his own great exploits, and the desire of infusing terror into the minds of his foes, seems to have been the cause of his declaring himself skilled in magic :

Where is he living—clipp'd in the sea,
That chides the banks of England, Scotland, Wales—
Which calls me pupil, or hath read to me?
And bring him out that is but woman's son,
Can trace me in the tedious ways of art,
Or hold me pace in deep experiments.—
I can call spirits from the vasty deep.

In his general character, Glyndwr appears to have been bold, spirited, and ambitious; but from, his strong attachment

ment to the unfortunate Richard, every one ought to look upon him as having been a faithful friend, who had dared to follow his master's fortune to the last. His revenge led him frequently to commit acts of cruelty towards his captured enemies, and towards those of his countrymen, who were not active in his cause. His chief bard Gryffydd Llwyd, speaks highly of his valour.

Loud fame has told thy gallant deeds
In every word a Saxon bleeds,
Terror and flight together came,
Obedient to thy mighty name :
Death in the van with ample stride,
Hew'd thee a passage deep and wide,
Stubborn as steel, thy nervous chest
A more than mortal's strength posses'd.

The ancient historians say, that he ended his days in the utmost misery, that outcast from society, he wandered from place to place, in the habit of a shepherd, in a low and most abject condition, being forced to shelter himself in caves, and

and desert places from the fury of his enemies. This, however, Mr. Pennant,* seems very justly to doubt, for “ had his situation been so deplorable, majesty would never have condescended to propose terms, to such scourge as Glyndwr had been to his kingdom. “ Our chieftain died unsubdued.”

I have made here a long digression, but it is what seemed to me justly due to the character of this brave and stubborn Hero.

About two miles before I came to Corwen, the vale began completely to change it's aspect, it wanted wood to enliven it, and the smooth low mountains, were cultivated nearly to their summit. The river Dee here differed almost from itself, it had assumed the form of a placid stream, and glided si-

* Tour in North Wales, I. 394.

lently and smoothly on, within it's flat and meadowy banks.

I now entered Corwen, *the white choir*, a dirty little market town, which, with it's white-washed church, are situated under a rock at the foot of the Ferwyn mountains. It is a place of great resort for anglers, who frequent it for the convenience of fishing in the Dee, which abounds in salmon, trout, graylings, and many other excellent species of fish.

It is celebrated for having been the place of rendezvous of the Welsh forces, under Owen Gwynedd, in the year 1165, who, from hence put an end
 X to the invasion of Henry II.*

In the church, is an ancient monument of one of the vicars, which has upon it this inscription :

* Vaughan's Sketch of the History of Merionethshire, in Camb. Reg. L. 192.

“ Hic

“ Hic Jacet Jorwerth Sulien, Vicarius
 “ de Cowaen, ora pro eo.” And in the church-yard is an apparently very old square stone pillar, that has formerly been finely carved, but from time and weather, the ornamental work is nearly worn out. I saw here an alms-house, founded in 1709, by William Eyton, Esquire, of Plâs Warren, in Shropshire, for six clergymen’s widows, of Merionethshire.

On the top of a hill on the opposite side of the river, called Cefyn Creini, ^{Ridge}
 X the summit of worship, is a vast circle of loose stones, which has the appearance of having been a British fortification, and is, I believe, what Mr. Pennant* calls Caer Drewyn, and by others y Caer Wen, the white fort. It is near half a mile in circumference, and the walls are at pre-

* Tour in North Wales, II. 67.

sent so much demolished, that at a distance, they have the appearance of huge heaps of stones, piled together without any regular order. Owen Gwynnedd, is said to have occupied this post, whilst Henry lay encamped on the Ferwyn hills, on the other side of the vale, and it is related that, Owen Glyndwr, used it in his occasional retreats. The whole circle is very visible from the road leading to Llanrwst, at the distance of about two miles from the town.

27

From Corwen, I made a six miles excursion to Pont y Glyn, *the bridge of the Precipice*, on the road leading to Llanrwst. The scenery of the whole walk had numerous beauties, but from one place in particular, there was a fine view along the beautiful vale of Edeirneon, bounded by the lofty Jerwyn moun-

mountains, and adorned with the most delightful cultivation.

The woody glen, at the head of which stands Pont y Glyn, with it's prominent rocks, almost obscured by the surrounding foliage, after a while presented itself, and then immediately on a sudden turn of the road, was the bridge thrown over the top, having beneath it the rugged and precipitous bed of the river, where, amongst immense masses of rock, the stream foamed with the most furious impetuosity. The transition to this romantic scene was so momentary, as to seem almost the effect of magic. The cataract is not very high, but being just under the bridge, where it's white foam was seen dashing amongst the dark opposing rocks, with the addition of the pendant foliage from each side, there was formed altogether a finely picturesque and elegant scene. The bridge stands

stands upon two nearly perpendicular rocks, and appeared to be fifty or sixty feet above the bed of the stream below. The view from thence down the hollow was grand and tremendous.

CHAP. IX.

FROM CORWEN TO BALA.—VALE OF EDEIRNEON—WATERFALL NEAR CYNWYD—LLANDRILLO—LLANDERFEL—STRANGE FULFILMENT OF AN ANCIENT PROPHECY—LLANFAWR—ACCOUNT OF THE WELSH BARD LLYWARCH HÉN—EXTRACT FROM HIS ELEGIES—BALA—TOMMEN Y BALA—CASTELL GRONW BEFR OF BENLYN—BALA LAKE—IT'S FISH—DREADFUL OVERFLOWINGS—RIVER DEE—VIEWS—ACCOUNT OF THE PHÆNOMENON CALLED DAEAR-DOR—CASTELL CORDOCHON—CAER GAI.

THE distance from Corwen to Bala, along the usual road, is about eleven miles; but as there was another, which

for some miles went along the side of the Dee, I preferred that, though it led me a mile or two farther round.

This road, as I had imagined, lay along the vale of Edeirneon, which I had so much admired in my ramble to Pont y Glyn; but I found it so bad, that it was almost impassable, and being in general along the bottom of this wide vale, I by no means had an opportunity of seeing all its beauties; but whenever I could get upon an eminence I found much to admire.

At the village of Cynwyd, *the Source of Mischief*, probably so called in consequence of the courts which were formerly held there by the great men of the neighbourhood, to settle the boundaries of the neighbouring commons, and to take cognizance of the encroachments;* I turned on the left for about half a mile up a dell that led me to

* Pennant, II. 72.

Rhaidr Cynwyd, *the Waterfall of Cynwyd*, on the little mountain river Tryf^Xtiog, or *the Impetuous*. This cataract affords much picturesque beauty, the water rushing in a furious torrent from the woody and pointed rocks above, dashes with a tremendous roar to the rugged bottom, along which it rages, till it joins the Dee a little beyond the village.

I passed Llandrillo, *the Church of St. Trillo*, and afterwards crossing the Dee, came to Llanderfel, another small village, whose church is dedicated to St. Derfel Gadarn, a saint of the British calendar. This church was once noted for a vast wooden image of its patron saint, concerning which the Welsh had a prophecy, that it should set *a whole forest on fire*. Whether it was to complete this prophecy, or to deprive the people of the cause of idolatry, (for they had a superstitious veneration for this old piece of wood), is not known;

known; but it was sent for to London in the year 1538, upon the condemnation ^{N.B.} of Dr. Forest, a friar observant, for treason, in having denied the supremacy of the King, and was placed under him as fuel when he was burned in Smithfield.* Thus was this prophecy fulfilled, but in a manner no doubt that was little expected by the credulous Welshmen of that time.

X Llanfawr, *the Great Village*, I next arrived at. This is the supposed place of interment of Llywarch Hên, or *Llywarch the Aged*, a Cambrian Prince, and a most celebrated British bard and warrior, who flourished in the seventh century; and, after a life of vicissitudes and misfortunes, died at the great age of a

* Holinshed's Chronicle, II. 945.—Whitelock's Memorials from Brute, p. 216. The Doctor's reply to the Court upon his arraignment, when it was proved that he had perjured himself, in having before taken the oath of supremacy, was that “he took that oath with his outward man, but his inward man never consented to it.” Holinshed, II. 945.

hundred and fifty years. Dr. Davies mentions in his time an inscription being upon the wall under which he is said to have been interred, but that being now covered with plaster is not visible. Not far from hence is a circle of stones, called Pabell Llyarch Hên, or *X the Tent of old Llyarch*, where, it is probable, he had a house, and spent the latter part of his days. In his activity in opposing the encroachments of the Saxons and Irish, he lost his patrimonial possessions, and every one of his four and twenty sons. Upon the loss of all his friends, he retired to a hut at Aber Cuog (now Dôlguog, near Machynlleth) to soothe with his harp the remembrance of misfortune, and to vent in elegiac numbers the sorrows of old age in distress.* He has described his

* Preface to Owen's Translation of the Elegies of Llyarch Hên.—Jones's Welsh Bards.—Vaughan's Sketch of the History of Merionethshire.—Camb. Reg. I. 192.

deplorable situation in numbers the most simple and affecting, from which the following is a selection put into English dress.

Hark ! the cuckow's plaintive note
Doth thro' the wild vale sadly float;
As from the rav'nous hawk's pursuit,
In Ciog rests her weary foot;
And there, with mournful sounds and low,
Echoes my harp's responsive woe.

Returning Spring, like opening day,
That makes all nature glad and gay,
Prepares Andate's fiery car,
To rouse the bretheren of the war;
When, as each youthful hero's breast
Gloweth for the glorious test,
Rushing down the rocky steep,
See the Cambrian legions sweep, }

Like meteors on the boundless deep.
Old *Mona* smiles —————
Monarch of an hundred isles.
And *Snowdon* from his awful height,
His hoar head waves propitious to the fight.

But I— no more in youthful pride,
Can dare the steep rock's haughty side;
For fell disease my sinews rends,
My arm unnerves, my stout heart bends;
And raven locks, now silver-grey,
Keep me from the field away.

But

But see!—He comes, all drench'd in blood,
Gwén, the Great, and *Gwén*, the Good;
 Bravest, noblest, worthiest son,
 Rich with many a conquest won;
Gwén, in thine anger great,
 Strong thine arm, thy frown like fate;
 Where the mighty rivers end,
 And their course to ocean bend,
 There, with the eagle's rapid flight,
 How wouldest thou brave the thickest fight!
 Oh, fatal day! Oh, ruthless deed!
 When the sisters cut thy thread.
 Cease, ye waves, your troubled roar;
 Nor flow, ye mighty rivers more;
 For *Gwén*, the Great, and *Gwén*, the Good,
 Breathless lies, and drench'd in blood!

Four and twice ten sons were mine,
 Us'd in battle's front to shine;
 But—low in dust my sons are laid,
 Nor one remains his fire to aid.

Hold, oh hold, my brain, thy seat;
 How doth my bosom's monarch beat!
 Cease thy throbs, perturbed heart;
 Whither would thy stretch'd strings start!
 From frenzy dire, and wild affright,
 Keep my senses thro' this night.*

X Bala, *the Outlet of the Lake*, is a populous market town, consisting chiefly of one

* Jones's Welsh Bards, p. 22, 23. From the length of the translation inserted in the above work, I have been under the necessity of omitting a great part of it.

wide and long street, and seated at the bottom of a large pool, called Llyn Te-gîd, *the Fair Lake.* It is in the parish of Llanycil, *the Church of the Recess*, about a mile distant, and is principally noted on account of it's great trade in woollen stockings. The assizes for Merionethshire are alternately held here and at Dolgelle.

Just before I entered the town, I passed, on the left, a lofty artificial mount, called Tommen y Bala, *the Tumulus of Bala*, which Mr. Pennant* conjectures to have been of Roman origin, and placed here, with a small castle on it's summit, to secure the pass towards the sea, and keep the mountaineers in subjection. Of this he thinks the Welsh afterwards took advantage, by making it one of the chain of British posts which extended towards the north:

* *Tour in Wales*, II. 77.

The history both of this place and the town is very little known; the most memorable transaction that I have met with concerning this is, that it was fortified in the year 1202 by Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, Prince of Wales.*

Bala appears to have been dependant on the castle of Harlech; and so much so, that in the reign of Edward II. it was committed to the care of Finian de Stanedon, constable of that castle.†

On the eastern bank of the Dee, not far distant, is another mount, called Castell Gronw Befyr o Benllyn, *the Castle of Gronw, the Fair of Penllyn*, a chieftain who lived in the time of Maelgwn Gwynedd.‡

* Powel's History of Wales, p. 258.

† Sebright MSS. quoted by Mr. Pennant, II. 98.

‡ Vaughan's Sketch of Merionethshire, Camb. Reg. I. 791.—Mr. Pennant, II. 80. is of opinion, that it was this castle that was fortified (or as it is there misprinted founded) by Llewelyn in 1202; Mr. Vaughan, however, says decidedly that it was the other.

Bala Lake, Llyn Tegid, or Pimble-mere, for this pool is known by all these names, is about a quarter of a mile south of the town of Bala. It is by far the largest of the Welsh lakes, being about four miles long, and in many parts near a mile in breadth. The scenery around it is mountainous, but not sufficiently rude to render it very striking; it reminded me a little of the low mountainous scenery about Winandermere, in the north of England.

This lake is well stocked with fish of different kinds, but in particular with trout, eels, and a species only to be found in alpine countries, called, from the whiteness of its scales, *Gwyniadd*.* This is a gregarious fish of insipid taste, whose greatest weight seldom exceeds three or four pounds. The spawning time is in December; and they gene-

* *Salmo Lavaretus* of Linnæus.

rally

rally keep at the bottom of the water, feeding on small shells and such aquatic plants as they meet with there. It has been said, that though the Dee runs through this pool, these fish are never to be found in the river; nor on the contrary, are the salmon of the river, though caught in plenty there, ever to be taken in the pool.* This is a singular circumstance; and, though not entirely, is, I believe, in a great measure true: the Honourable Daines Barrington, † who enquired accurately into the matter, only observes to the assertion, that they *never* encroach upon each other; that he had seen a salmon caught in the lake upwards of two hundred yards from the bridge; and that he had been authentically informed, of several of the others being taken even so low down the river as

* Ed. Llwyd in Camden's Britannica.

† See a paper on Cambrian Fish, in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1767.

at Llandrillo, eight miles from Bala.—The fishery is the property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne.

The overflowings of this pool are at times very dreadful; but this seldom happens, except when the winds rush from the mountains at the upper end, when they drive the waters before them, even over great part of the vale of Edeirnion, rising in stormy weather very suddenly, from the joint force of the winds and mountain torrents, sometimes eight or nine feet in perpendicular height, and almost threatening the town with destruction. On the contrary, in calm settled weather, it is so smooth, that there have been several instances, in severe winters, of it's having been completely frozen over, and mistaken by travellers for a wide plain.

The river Dee takes it's rise from under Arran Benllyn, the high mountain

at the head of the pool; and passing through it, as so great an authority in these matters as Giraldus Cambrinus* says, without mixing it's waters with those of the lake, it is discharged under a bridge, not far from Bala, called Pont Mwnwg y Llyn, *the bridge at the neck of the lake.*

The name of this river is properly ✓ Dwy, *divine*; a name which, no doubt, it acquired many centuries ago, from the superstitious veneration in which it was held by the natives, on account of it's miraculous properties of overflowing it's banks without the intervention of rains†, and from it's being said to have foretold some remarkable events by the changing of it's channel. And it is even said, that when the Britons have been drawn up on it's banks, ready to engage the

* Itin. Camb.

† Itin. Camb. auct. Sylv. Gir. Camb. Lib. II. c. 11. p. 874.

Saxons, their custom was first to kiss the earth, and then all devoutly to drink of the river, expecting most probably that it's sacred influence must inspire them in battle*. It's name is certainly not, as many have conjectured, derived from Dû, *black*; for, except when tinged by the torrents from the mountains, it's waters are perfectly bright and clear; and Spenser† seems to have entertained this opinion in his description of the Dwelling of old Timon, the foster-father of King Arthur :

—— lowe in a valley green,
Under the foot of Rawræn Mossie hore,
From whence the river Dee, as silver clene,
His tumbling billows rolls with gentle roar.

From the bottom of the lake, the diversified shores present to the eye a pleasing scene. From hence, Aran Ben-lyn is seen stretching his black and

* Gibson's *Camden*, p. 556.

† *Faerie Queene*, book I. canto ix.

rocky front beyond the upper end, and again far beyond, in fainter colours, the grand pointed summits of Cader Idris fill up the distance.

I crossed the bridge, and, in an excursion round the pool, proceeded along it's eastern edge. From near Llangower, a pleasing vale was seen to open on the opposite side, bounded by mountains, and closed in at the end by one of the Arenigs.

I had passed the end of the lake about half a mile when I left the road, and went down a narrow lane which leads to Llanwchllyn, *the church above the lake*; I soon afterwards entered the vale of Twrch, and looking around me, Aran Benllyn presented one of it's naked, craggy, and prominent cliffs, where it's poor vegetation hung in a few tufts from it's broken sides. Here the scene presented was altogether that of nature in her

her roughest attire, where rocks, heath, moss, and a few grasses, seemed almost the only component parts of the picture.

From hence I crossed the river Twrch, *the burrower*, and was shewn by the guide a piece of land, of considerable extent, that was nearly covered with innumerable masses of broken rocks, which had been carried there in the summer of 1782, by what the Welsh call Daear-dor, *a breaking of the earth*. This is a dislodgment of a vast quantity of the surface of the ground, and (as appears to have been the case in the present instance) sometimes of a considerable tumulus from the highest mountains, which seems to have been occasioned by the bursting of clouds, whose vast contents being lodged in the hollows, penetrate by degrees into the earth, which, loosening the whole mass, is swept down with the torrent, and generally

rally lodged in some vale below. The present accident happened after a thunder storm, on the 20th of June, 1781, when the river Twrch overflowed its banks in such a dreadful torrent, as to sweep every thing before it. According to the newspaper-accounts no less than seventeen houses, ten cows, and a vast number of sheep, besides the foil of all the meadows and corn-fields, in its course were destroyed by it; and this meadow, in which the greater part of the stones were lodged, was so heaped with them, as to render it not worth the trouble of clearing again for cultivation. The dimensions of some of the stones borne here by the impetuosity of the torrent are astonishing; one was 19 feet long, 9 broad, and 6 high; another $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $7\frac{1}{2}$, and 6 deep, was split by striking upon another. Eight other stones, half this size, were carried half a mile,

mile, and five bridges were swept away in the parish. The inhabitants providentially received a timely alarm; the consequence of a few minutes delay would have been the destruction of the whole village. The only person missing was a poor woman, who, being sick in bed, was drowned.*

On the summit of a high and craggy rock, at some distance from the road, about a mile beyond Llanwchllyn, are the remains of an ancient British fort, called Castell Corndochon. Its form seems to have been somewhat oval, and it has consisted of an oblong tower, rounded at the extremity, and behind it another that was square. Respecting this fortress, I have not met with a single historical fact.

Returning I saw, on an eminence on the left, near the head of the pool Caer

* Pennant II. p. 87.

Gai,

Gai, where was formerly a fort belonging
X to Cai Hir ap Cynyr, or, as Spenser has
called him, Timon, the foster-father of
King Arthur, who was educated here.*
It appears probable that the Romans had
here a fortress, as several of their coins
have, at different times, been dug up in
the neighbourhood. A stone was also
dug up, which had on it this inscription :
“ Hic jacet Salvianus Burfocavi felius
“ Cupetian.”† This place of defence
was erected, no doubt, to guard the pass
through the mountains ; but, except the
above, history has left us almost as few
incidents relative to Caer Gai as to Caf-
tell Corndochon.

The Bull-Inn, at Bala, I found a most
hospitable house ; and I received there
the most civil and attentive treatment
possible.

* Spenser's *Faerie Queene*, book I. canto ix.

+ Vaughan's sketch of the history of Merionethshire,
Camb. Reg. I. 191.

CHAP. X.

FROM BALA TO SHREWSBURY.—PONT CYNWYD — RHIWEDOG — BATTLE AT PWL Y GELANEDD—TRÛM Y SARN—FERWYN MOUNTAINS—MILLTER GERRIG LLANGYNOD—SLATE QUARRIES—METHOD OF CONVEYING SLATES FROM THE MOUNTAINS—LEAD MINES—LLANRHAIAADR YN MOCHNANT—PISTYLL RHAIAADR—LLANGEDWIN—LLANYBLODWEL HALL—LLANYMYNECH—NESSCLIFFE—MONTFORD BRIDGE—SHREWSBURY.

I NOW left Bala, and proceeded towards Shrewsbury, in my return to Cambridge, the place from whence I commenced my journey. The morning was fine, and nature was enlivened by the sprightliness of every thing around :

“ And now and then sweet Philomel would wail,
Or stockdoves ’plain, amid the forest deep,
That drowsy rustled to the sighing gale,
And still a coil the grasshopper did keep.”

The

The pleasure attendant upon these rural objects continued only for a few miles, for I then had nothing to look upon but a dreary succession of open moors; which, though for the sportsman they might have an infinity of charms, they afforded but little comfort to the tourist.

About a mile and a half from Bala, I passed a bridge called Pont Cynwyd; below which, the bed of the turbulent little stream is crowded with huge masses of rock, deeply excavated into circular hollows, by the furious eddying of the water which rages from above. In one place these rocks, with the stream rushing amongst them, form a small but pleasing cascade.

A little beyond stands Rhiwedog, *the X abrupt ascent*, an ancient family seat, near which, in a vale, where there is generally some stagnant water in the win-

ter, called Pwl y Gelanedd, *the pool of the slain*, was fought a most severe battle betwixt the Britons and Saxons, in which the aged Llywarch, taking an active part, lost here his only surviving son.

From the side of a steep, just after I entered the moors, I was presented with a distant view of the vale of Edeirneon, whose verdure and fertility formed a pleasing contrast with my bleak and dreary situation. The road now led me over Trûm y Sarn, *the causeway of the ridge*, so called from it's being near a lofty heath-clad mountain, which I here passed at a little distance on the right; one of the immense ridges extending fifteen or sixteen miles in length; called the Ferwyn Mountains. The two most elevated points are, Cader Ferwyn and Cader Fronwen. I soon afterwards came to a noted Bwlch, or pass, which divides the counties of Merioneth and Montgomery,

gomery, called Milltir Gerig, *the stony mile.*

I now had a view into the curious and romantic vale of Llangynog, so completely enclosed on all sides by mountain barriers, as apparently to afford no outlet for the inhabitants below. The mountains are in many places almost perpendicular, and their cliffs not to be scaled by any thing, except the goats and sheep, which browse in the greatest safety upon their steep and precipitous sides. The bottom was interspersed with the houses of small farmers, who there carry on the process of cultivation with some care.

A tolerably good road took me from the edge of this vale, by a descent rather steep, first into the hollow, and then to the small and dirty village of Llangynog, *the Church of St. Cunog*, on the north side of which rises a most stupen-

dous rock, on whose side several large slate works are carried on. From hence, betwixt November 1775 and November 1776, about 904,000 were sold at different rates of between six shillings and twenty shillings a thousand.* The quarries are high in the mountain; and I observed, that the mode here of conveying them down was different from, and apparently much more dangerous than, that practised in the slate works about, Llanberis near Caernarvon. Here they are placed in a small sledge, which, by a rope, is fastened to the shoulders of the man who has the care of conveying it down, which is done along paths made for the purpose, which wind along the side of the mountain. He then begins to descend, his face towards it; and, having firm hold with his hands, the velocity which the sledge acquires in its de-

* Pennant's Tour, II. 347.

fcent

scent is counteracted by the man's striking against the prominences with his feet, which, since he goes backwards, and has at the same time to keep the sledge in it's track, must be a very difficult task, and only to be acquired by practice. The danger attending this mode of conveyance I should think must be very great; but, upon enquiry at the village, I was informed, that serious accidents have been very seldom known to occur.

At Craig y Mwyn, about two miles and a half from Llangynog, in the year 1692, a vein of lead ore was discovered, which was found so valuable, as to afford to the Powys family a clear revenue of twenty thousand pounds a year for near forty years; but, when they had worked to the depth of a hundred yards, the water broke in upon them, and became so powerful that they were obliged to give

give it up.* Since that time the mines have continued filled with water; but some gentlemen have lately determined to attempt the recovery of them, and for this purpose intend to drive levels, in order, if possible, to clear them once more. There are besides these some smaller mines near the village, which are at present worked: but, either from want of spirit, or want of ore, the produce, I was told, was very trifling.

On my leaving Llangynog, the rain began to pour down in torrents; but this village was so poor a place that I was determined to proceed. We are generally able to find some comfort in the greatest misfortunes; and at present I had certainly the pleasing reflection, that it would tend to render the cataract of Pistyll Rhaeadr, which I intended to visit the next morning, a

* Pennant, II. 347.

much more interesting scene. This circumstance carried with it so much comfort, that, being soon completely wetted, I became entirely careless as to myself; and after that, the faster and more heavily the rain came down, the better I was pleased with it.

In this state it was that, after about two hours slippery walking, and my clothes dripping with wet, I arrived at Llanrhaiadr, *the Village of the Cataract*, situated, like the one I had just left, in a deep hollow, surrounded on all sides by mountains, whose summits were entirely obscured in clouds. This hollow is called, for what reason I know not, Mochnant, *the Vale of Pigs*. The houses at Llanrhaiadr are irregular; but many of them being old, and overgrown with vegetation, give it, from many points of view, an appearance highly picturesque.

The

The inn, the Coach and Horses, from it's exterior promised but little comfort ; but I found to my satisfaction, that this poor looking house afforded very tolerable accomodations.

Dr. William Morgan, who first translated the bible into Welsh, was Vicar of this place. He was afterwards rewarded with the Bishopric of Llandaff, and, in 1601, with that of St. Asaph.

Pistyll Rhaiadr, *the Spout of the Cata-*
~~rac~~, the most celebrated waterfall in this part of the country, rushes down the front of an almost perpendicular rock, which terminates a vale, at the distance of about four miles from the village. This vale is narrow and well wooded ; it is watered by the little river Rhaiadr, which forms a boundary line betwixt Denbighshire and Merionethshire, and flows from hence into the Tanat, and it affords several pleasing and beautiful

scenes. The upper part of the cataract, when the sun shines upon it, is visible to a great distance; and along this hollow, its silvery and linear appearance give an odd singularity to many of the views.

This cataract is upwards of two hundred and ten feet high; and, for near two thirds of its height, falls down the flat face of a bleak, naked, and barren rock; from thence it rages through a natural arch, and betwixt two prominent sides, into the small basin at its bottom. The whole scene is destitute of wood; but it is so completely composed of simple grandeur, that trees seemed as if they would injure instead of heighten the effect. Near the foot of the rock is a small room, built, as I was informed by Dr. Worthington, the late Vicar, for the use of the visitors; and it is found very convenient for those who bring refreshments along with them.

On

On leaving Llanrhaiadr, I proceeded along a road, which goes through part of the vale of Llangedwin. I passed Llangedwin Hall, a handsome stone edifice, the property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne; this was a favourite residence of the late Sir Watkin, but it is very seldom visited by its present owner.

Llanyblodwell Hall, which is not far from hence, was, in former times, when the residence of Gwervul Hael, a frequent bardic theme.

I now arrived once more at Llanymynech. Betwixt this village and Shrewsbury I found but little entertainment; this might, however, in a great measure be owing to the quantity of rain that fell, which rendered the whole of this part of my journey quite dreary and uncomfortable. I could just perceive, through the thickness of the mist, the

Breiddin hills, whose summits, entirely obscured in clouds, were a few miles on the right. At about the half way, I passed under a high rock of red freestone, called Nefs Cliff; and soon afterwards saw by the road side a small building, from which several boys were coming, which had over the door this singular inscription:

God prosper long this public good,
A school erected where a chapel stood.

In what this originated I did not learn.

I crossed the Severn at Montford bridge; and, in about an hour afterwards, ended my pedestrian excursion at the town of Shrewsbury; and I proceeded the next day to the place from whence my journey had been commenced.

CHAP. XI.

SHREWSBURY—HISTORY—CHARTERS—
—CASTLE—WALLS—FREESCHOOL—
INFIRMARY—MILLINGTON'S HOSPITAL
—ABBEY—THE QUARRY—ORPHAN
HOUSE—RELIGIOUS HOUSES—
CHURCHES—PARLIAMENTS—BATTLE
OF SHREWSBURY—SWEATING SICK-
NESS—SIEGE.

SHREWSBURY* is an ancient town, seated on a sloping ground, and nearly surrounded by the Severn. It was once the capital of Powisland, and the seat of several of the princes. The period in which the town arose, is not known with any degree of certainty; but it is supposed to have been on the ruin of the Roman *Uriconium*, the *Vreken Ceaster* of the Saxons, and the modern

2?

* The most material parts, of the following account of this town, have been taken from Mr. Pennant, the reason for which I have stated in the preface.

X Wroxeter, a village upon the Severn, about four miles distant.* The Welsh called it Pen Gwern, *the head of the Alder-Groves*, and the Saxons Scobbies Byrig, on account of the hill on which it stood being covered with wood.

“ In the time of William the Conqueror, this city, (for so it was then called) paid yearly seven pounds, sixteen shillings and eight pence, *de Gablo*;† they were reckoned to be two hundred and fifty two *citizens*,‡ whereof twelve of the better sort were bound, to watch about the Kings of England, when they lay in this city, and as many to attend them with horses and arms, when they went forth a hunting. Which last service, the learned Camden believes, was or-

* Gibson's Camden, p. 546. † As a custom.

‡ Mr. Pennant, II. 395, has it 252 *houses*, but this must have been a slip of the pen, as both Blount and Camden, are against him.

“ dained,

“ dained, because not many years before
“ Edric Streon, Duke of the Mercians,
“ a man of great impiety, lay in wait
“ near this place for Prince Afhelm, and
“ barbarously murdered him, as he rode
“ a hunting.”*

In former reigns, this town has been favoured with several royal charters, the first that is extant, was granted in 1189, by Richard I. in which all it's ancient customs and privileges were confirmed, granting to the burgesses, the town and all it's appurtenances, which had been seized by Henry I. on the forfeiture of Robert, Earl of Shrewsbury, but it was not till the reign of Elizabeth, that it was made corporate. This latter charter was confirmed and enlarged by Charles I. The corporation now consists of a Mayor, twenty

* Blount's Tenures, p. 111, where are quoted Domesday, tit. Scirofescire, and Camden's Britannia.

four Aldermen, and forty eight assistants, called the Common Council. They have also a Recorder, two Chamberlains, a Steward, Sword-bearer, and three Serjeants at Mace. The town sends two members to parliament.

The castle, of which not much of the ancient parts are left, stood on the neck of the peninsula, formed by the Severn, and has been lately repaired and modernized. The Keep was on a large artificial mount, which shews it to have been of Saxon or British origin, notwithstanding its foundation has been ascribed to Roger de Montgomery, the great Earl of Shrewsbury.

It continued in the possession of the two sons of the founder, till the reign of Henry I. when he took it into his own hands. After it was dismantled in the civil wars, it was granted by Charles II. to Francis, Lord Viscount Newport, afterwards

terwards Earl of Bradford, and some-time after this period, it got into the possession of the Pulteney family.

Robert de Belesme, was the first who attempted to defend the town by walls, this he did, by building from each side of the castle, across the Isthmus, in order to secure it against the attacks of Henry I.* It was not however till 1219, that a regular wall was begun, and this even then, from want of mony, went on so slowly, that it was thirty two years before it was finished.

The streets of Shrewsbury are very irregular, and many of the buildings ancient, but it has been much improved of late years. The many advantages it possesses, have induced several families of North Wales, to make it their winter residence.

* Gibson's Camden, p. 546.

The free school, which stands in a broad and handsome street, near the castle, was originally built of wood and founded by Edward VI. in 1552. The present handsome structure, was erected about forty years afterwards, it contains the school, houses for the Masters, and a library, which contains a valuable collection of books and several curiosities.

The infirmary, which has nothing very remarkable in its appearance, was opened in April, 1747.

Instead of the old Welsh bridge, on which stood the statue of Richard, Duke of York, and which was defended by gates and towers, a fine structure has within these few years been raised, much more beautiful and convenient.

On an eminence above Frankwel, a suburb beyond the bridge, stands Millington's hospital, a handsome brick building, founded in 1734, by the will

of

of Mr. James Millington, formerly a draper, who lived in this place. It maintains twelve poor housekeepers, (single persons) and a charity school, for twenty boys and twenty girls, all from the district of Frankwel, if such are to be found there, and if not, those from the nearest part of the parish of St. Chad.

Not far from the new Bridge, stood the Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, founded in 1083, by Roger, Earl of Shrewsbury, and his Countess Adelissa. Its monks, were Benedictines from Seez, in Normandy, and the Earl with the permission of his lady, became himself, one of the religious of his own abbey. He endowed it largely and encouraged every one who held under him, to do the same; he died in 1094, and was interred here. Robert, the fourth abbot, procured with infinite difficulty, and enriched the abbey, with the relics of

of St. Wenefrede, and enshrined them much to the emolument of his house. The revenues at the dissolution were estimated, according to Dugdale, at only a hundred and thirty two pounds, four shillings and ten pence; but Speed, with much more probability, makes them five hundred and fifteen pounds, four shillings and three pence. Queen Elizabeth, made the church parochial, which was called St. Crux, or, the Holy Crofs, in the abbey of Shrewsbury. It still retains the name, but since that time, has undergone great alterations.

The Franciscans, had a house a little to the south of the new Bridge, not far from the town walls. It was founded by desire of Hawyse, daughter of Owen ap Gryffydd, Prince of Powys, and wife to John Charlton, Lord of Powys, sometime before 1353. At the dissolution, it was granted to Richard

Andrews,

Andrews, and Nicholas Temple. The remains were fitted up into a private house.

A little farther is that beautiful walk the Quarry, bordering on the river, and planted with rows of trees. It is the property of the corporation, and the pasturage part, is let to the inhabitants, and the profits distributed to the burgesses.

On a lofty bank, opposite to these walks, is seated a fine brick building, called the Orphan House, which was begun in the year 1760, and designed to receive part of the foundlings from the great Hospital in London; but on the decline of that, this building became useless for that purpose: it was afterwards made a place of confinement for prisoners of war.

The house of Augustine Friars stood beyond the Quarry, close to the river.

According

According to Leland it was founded by one of the Staffords.

In this place there was also a Monastery of Dominicans, or Black Friars; the foundation of which is ascribed to Maud, Lady Genevil, wife of Jeffry, Lord Genevil, who lived in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I.

Most of the parochial churches of Shrewsbury are of great antiquity. St. Chad was founded before the Norman Conquest, probably by the Saxons, soon after the expulsion of the Welsh. In 1393, the old church was burnt down, by the carelessness of one of the workmen. The fellow seeing the mischief he had done, ran home, put some money in his pocket, and, attempting to escape, was drowned in fording the river near the stone bridge. This church has been lately rebuilt, in a highly ornamented manner, but it's rotunda, and other de-

corations, give one more the idea of a place of amusement, than of religious worshp.

St. Mary's and St. Alcmund's, are both remarkable for their handsome spires. The first is said to have been founded by King Edgar; and the other by the heroine Elfleda.

The church, which is said to be the most ancient, is that of St. Giles, seated on the skirt of the suburbs beyond the abbey. In Doomsday it is called the Parish of the City ; and it is now annexed to the church of the Holy Crofs, or the abbey.

Parliaments have been holden in this town. The first summoned formally by writ, met on the 19th. of September, 1283, by which David, the brother of Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, was tried and condemned. He was the first who suffered the death of a traitor, in the

form of the sentence, now in use ; which he underwent in it's fullest extent. Another parliament was holden here in January, 1397 ; and it was called the great parliament, on account of the number of people, assembled in it. Here Richard II. obtained a stretch of power unknown before, and by a strange concession obtained, that the whole power of the nation should devolve on the King, twelve peers, and six commoners.* A bull from the Pope was thought necessary, to confirm so irregular a proceeding.

Of the military transactions relative to this place, the most noted was, the important battle in July, 1403, which is best known by the name of, the battle of

* The names of the commissioners were, the Dukes of Lancaster, York, Albemarle, Surrey and Exeter ; the Marquis of Dorset ; the Earls of March, Salisbury, Northumberland, Gloucester, Winchester and Wiltshire ; John Bussey, Henry Green, John Russel, Robert Teyne, Henry Chelmeswicke, and John Golofre.

Shrewsbury, between Henry IV. and Henry Percy, surnamed Hotspur. It was the design of the insurgents, of the North, to make themselves masters of this town, and strengthen their forces by a junction with Owen Glyndwr, and his countrymen ; but Henry, by his activity, prevented this junction and saved his crown ; for coming up with Percy's army at this town, the high spirit of that hero, would not suffer him to await the arrival of Glyndwr, who was encamped at Oswestry, but he ventured an action with his own small forces. The fight began early in the morning, and after the most violent contention, for about three hours, Percy's party was routed, and himself and about five thousand men slain. The Earls of Worcester and Douglas were taken prisoners, the former of whom was beheaded at Shrewsbury. The spot on which this

battle was fought, seems to have been Battlefield, in the parish of Albrighton, about three miles distant.*

It is affirmed that Henry VII. brought with the army, that landed in Wales, a species of malady unknown in any other age or nation, called the sweating sickness, which after raging for upwards of sixty years in the kingdom, and carrying off many thousands of his subjects, at last ended in this town, in the year 1551, where it had just before raged so terribly, as to take off no less than nine hundred and ninety persons, in the course of a very few days. It began with a violent perspiration, which never left the patient till it destroyed him or he recovered. Such as were affected by it, usually died or recovered within the space of twenty four hours, if taken ill in the day; the patient was to be put to

* Gibson's Camden, p. 547.

bed in his clothes, and wait the event. Those who were seized in the night, were to remain in bed, but by no means to sleep.* The most eminent physicians of the time, were puzzled as to the cause of this strange complaint; it however seems to have originated among the foreign levies, of the Duke of Richmond, which were raked out of hospitals and gaols, buried in filth, and then crowded on board the transports, and conveyed hither.

In the civil wars, Shrewsbury was garrisoned for the King, and Sir Michael Earnly was made Governor. General Mytton made two unsuccessful attempts, but in February, 1644, he attacked it so vigorously, that it was surrendered to him, on condition that the Irish should be given up, and that the

* Gibson's Camden, p. 547.

English should march to Ludlow. Crowe, the lieutenant, was afterwards hanged for his treachery or cowardice. The governor, and several persons of rank in the country, were taken prisoners, and the town was plundered. Mytton was soon after the siege made Governor, and received the thanks of the house for his good services.

CHAP. XII.

THE MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF THE WELSH—ACCOUNT GIVEN BY GERALDUS CAMBRENSIS—ROYAL HOUSEHOLD IN THE TENTH CENTURY—EXTRACTS FROM THE WELSH LAWS—SINGULAR RECOMPENCE FOR SEDUCTION—COMPENSATIONS FOR MURDER AND AFFRONTES—FEUDAL TENURES AND VASSALAGE—THE ASSACH—METHOD OF HUNTING—LAWS OF THE CHASE—GAMES—PRESENT MANNERS—CURIOSITY—SUPERSTITIONS—KNOCKERS—SINGULAR RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS—MODE OF COURTSHIP—WEDDINGS—FUNERALS—OFFERINGS—THE DIODLYS—OBSERVATIONS ON MR. PRATT—CLERGY.

THE manners of the Welsh people have had many singular and striking features, from the earliest periods of their history. Driven into this obscure corner,

corner, near fourteen centuries ago, they have, from the mountainous nature of their country, and their own dispositions, been ever since almost entirely secluded from all commerce with their neighbours, and prevented from settling any connexions with them. They, therefore, we find, prejudiced in favour of their own institutions, and their own customs, retained many of them for several centuries afterwards. From their seclusion they also contracted new, and different habits, different modes of life, and many other customs which remained, long unknown to their neighbours, some of these have been transmitted to us, by their bards, and others by their historians.

Sylvester Giraldus Cambrensis,* Arch-deacon of St. David's and Brecknock,
who,

* He was of noble Flemish parents, and born near Tenby, in Pembrokeshire, in 1145. He was secretary to Henry II.
tutor

who, in the year 1187, travelled through Wales, his native country, with Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, to preach, the crusades has left us, though mingled with much superstition, and many of those incredulous stories, which were common in those dark ages, a very accurate detail of the character of the Welsh people.

Pride of ancestry and nobility, were, he says, at that time, points held by them in the highest estimation ; and so deeply rooted was this spirit, that even the very lowest of the people, carefully preserved the genealogy of their families, and were able from memory, to recite the names of their ancestors, for several generations.

tutor to King John, and afterwards made Bishop of St. David's. He wrote an Irish and Welsh Itinerary, and other works. He died, and was buried at St. David's, about the age of seventy.

They

They were keen in their resentments, and revenged most deeply any insult, committed on their family. They were vindictive and bloody in their anger, and too prompt to avenge, not only recent injuries, but even those committed at very remote periods.

They did not in general reside in cities, villages, or camps, but led solitary lives in the woods. On the borders of their forests, the lower class formed their dwellings, by twisted ozier coverings, suited to the different seasons of the year, but with as little art, as expence.

They had no beggars in their whole country, for their hospitality was extended to every one. They esteemed liberality, and particularly hospitable entertainment, as preferable to every other virtue. By a mutual return of civilities, this habit was so common, that whenever a traveller entered a house, upon deliver-

delivering his arms to the guard, some of the domestics brought a vessel of water to him; and such was the custom, ^X that if he suffered his feet to be washed, he was considered as a lodger for the night. The offering of water was their mode of invitation; but, if he refused this kindness, he was considered only as desiring a morning's recreation.

The strangers who arrived in the morning were entertained through the whole day, and till the evening, with the conversation of young women, and the music of the harp, for almost every house was provided with both of these; from whence it appears, says Giraldus, ^{A.} that this people were not, like the Irish, given to jealousy. Every tribe or family possessed the skill of playing upon the harp beyond any kind of learning; and the Welsh altogether excelled, in the wit and ingenuity of their songs, and

ex-

extemporaneous effusions of genius, all the other Western nations.

In the evening, the strangers being all assembled, an entertainment was provided for them, according to their number and rank, and according to the ability of the host. The kitchen was not loaded with much profusion, nor with delicacies, or with incentives to gluttony; nor had they tables, table-linen, or napkins: nature was always studied more than splendor.

The guests were placed by threes at supper, and the dishes were placed on green and fresh rushes. They had also thin and broad cakes of bread, that were always baked the same day.

At the same time that the whole family, with a kind of emulation in their civilities, were waiting on the guests, the host and hostess in particular always remained standing, that they might overlook

overlook the whole, and see that none of the dishes were taken away till every one had finished; so that if any one had not sufficient, it might be his own fault.

When the hour of rest approached, a large bed of rushes, thinly spread, and covered with a hard and rough cloth, the produce of the country,* was ranged lengthways along the sides of the room. On this they all laid down together, in the same dress they had worn during the day, which consisted of a shirt and small cloak. The fire was always kept burning at their feet during the night; and either when they found themselves starved, or the bed uneasy, from its hardness, they hastened to it, to seek a remedy against those inconveniences: then, returning again to their bed, they alternately presented one side to the cold, and the other to the hardness.

✗ * This was called *Brychan*, or plaid, the same with the more ancient *Bracha*.

Both

Both sexes of this nation took particular care in preserving their teeth. These they kept perfectly white, by continually rubbing them with a green hazel and a woollen cloth; and what tended much to their preservation, they invariably abstained from every kind of hot food, using only such as was cool and temperate.

The men, who were chiefly occupied in military affairs, shaved their beards, leaving only a whisker above their upper lip. The youth went by clans and families, with their chief at their head; and they were so prompt in the defence of their country, that they were permitted to enter the houses of every person with the same security as their own.*

In the time of Howel Dda, *Howel the Good*, about nine hundred years ago, and near three hundred before the time of Giraldus Cambrensis, the royal mansion

* Giraud. Camb. Descript. Cambriæ, Cap. X, XI.

confisted

confisted merely of a noyadd, or hall; an ysdafell, or parlour; and a bwythy, or buttery; an ysdable, or stable; a cynhordy, or dog-kennel; and an ysgubaur, or granary; an odyn, oven or bake-house; a tybychan, or little house; and a hundy, or bed room.*

The fire-pan was of iron, and the fuel of wood; and the bed was only of straw, as it continued to be, even in the royal bed-chambers of England, till so late as the conclusion of the thirteenth century. The King's own dress was a mantle and tunic, shirt, breeches, shoes, stockings, and gloves, and a cap of skins. The Queen's was nearly the same, differing only in her having fillets under her cap.

The great officers of the court were, Pen-teulu, the Mayor of the Palace; Ef-

* *Leges Wallicæ*, Lib. I. C. 47. From these law, which were founded sometime betwixt the yeats 940 and 950, much of the following account is taken.

feirad-teulu, the Domestic Chaplain; Y Dysdain, the Steward of the House-hould; Pen-hebogydd, the Head Falconer, or Master of the Hawks;* and Braw dur Llys, the Court Justitiary; Pen-gwafdrawd, the President of the Grooms; Pencynydd, the Chief Huntsman; Gwas Ysdafell, or the Lord Chamberlain, whose place it was to make the King's bed; Dysdein Yvrenhines, Steward of the House to the Queen; Effeirad Yvrenhines, the Queen's Chaplain; Bardd-teulu, or the Court Poet; Gof-degwr, or the King's Sergeant, who had to command silence in the King's hall at dinner, by striking on a particular pillar; Drysfawr Yneuadd, the Door-keeper

* When the Master of the Hawks gave any entertainment in his private apartments, he was entitled to three horns of the best liquor, and one dish; but he was cautiously required to bring his cup in person to the hall at every repletion of it, lest he should drink too much and neglect his birds.

Lleges Wall. Lib. I. 15.

of the Hall; Dryfawr Yr Ystafell, the Door-keeper of the Chamber; Pen-cenydd, or the Master of the King's Hounds; Meddwyd, the King's Cellarer; Meddyg, or the Physician to the Household; Trulliad, or the Butler; Dryfawr, or the Porter,* who had to provide straw for all the beds, and to kindle all the fires in the court; the Cog, or Cook; the Cantrwllyd, the Curator of Lights; Morwyn Yfdafell, the Chambermaid; Gwastrawd Awwyn, the Groom of the Rein; Troedawc, the Footholder; and Gwastrawd Awwyn Yvrenhines, the Groom of the Rein to the Queen.

In this establishment we see the head of the falconers, the chief of the grooms, the poet laureat, and the cook, all ranked

* Of the swine that passed through the gate, he was to have, as a perquisite, any sow that he could lift by the bristles with one hand, so that her feet should be as high as his knees. And every animal without a tail passing through the gate was his property. *Leges Wall.*

immediately amongst the great officers of state. Such a precedence was naturally given them in a court, generally devoted, as all originally were, and as in all illiterate ages ever will be, to the pleasures of the feast and the diversions of the chace.

In the absence of the King, the authority of the court was vested in the Domestic Chaplain, the Steward of the Household, and the Judge of the Palace, conjointly.

Their different ranks in society were, Brenin, or Teyrn, the King; Twysog, or Duke; Jarll, or Earl; Arglwydd, or Lord; Barwn, or Baron; Uchelwr, or Squire; Gwr-ëang, or Yeoman; Alltud, or Vassal; and, last of all, the Caeth, or Slave.

The King had reserved to him, the right of commanding every person to join his army; and once a year, if it were necessary, to go with him out of the country;

country; but, in his own country, he had the power of calling them together whenever he pleased.

If a necessitous person, exiled, and without the power of returning, passed three nights and three days without lodging, and without receiving any alms, and in that time went through three townships, having nine houses in each township; if he was, after that time, impelled by hunger to commit theft, no person could have redress against him.

A Welshman, by both parents, having no debased blood in him, was accounted a free native gentleman.

If a villain took the son of a Baron, having the father's consent, to bring him up and take care of him, that child was a participator in the inheritance of the villain, in the same manner as his own children.

There were three sciences which a villain could not teach his son without the consent of his Lord ; scholarship, bardism, and smithcraft.* But if the Lord suffered him to study any one of them for a certain time, he was by that means made free, and could no longer be ranked with the villains.

The Welsh had also two singular laws; one of which was, that if any person killed the cat that was about the King's palace, she was to be taken by the tail, and her head touching the floor, so much wheat was to be forfeited for the offence, as being thrown round her, would cover the tip of her tail; the other, that if a dog accustomed to bite

* This was one of the liberal sciences: the term had a more comprehensive sense than we give to it at this time; and the artist must have united in his own mind different branches of knowledge, which are now practised separately, such as raising the ore, and converting it into metal.

See *Camb. Reg.* II. 351.

people,

people, had done it three times, and after that his owner had neglected to kill him, he was to be tied to the foot of his master, and not at a greater length than two spans, and in that manner to be killed. Three cows were also to be paid, as a satisfaction for the wrong, to the King.*

The females employed so much of their time in spinning, that the spindle became, not long afterwards, the symbol of the sex, and an estate devolving to the female line, was formally said, by law, to descend to the distaff.† And thus engaged, the British virgin was declared marriageable at the age of fourteen.‡ The lover addressed himself to the father of the maid; and, if he agreed to the marriage, he introduced his daughter to the suitor: a few days concluded the suit;

* *Leges Wallicæ.*

† Hence the origin of the term *spinster* for an unmarried woman.

‡ *Leges Wallicæ*, Lib. II. c. I.

for the absolute authority of the father took away all power of refusal from the daughter; and, if she disliked the lover whom he had recommended, she had no other resource, than the tears of entreaty, or the dangers of flight.*

The recompence to a virgin who had been seduced was very singular:—On complaint made, that she was deserted by her lover, it was ordered by the court, that she was to lay hold of the tail of a bull of three years old, introduced through a wicker door, and shaven and well greased. Two men were to goad the beast; and, if she could, by dint of strength, retain the bull, she was to have it by way of satisfaction; but if not, she got nothing but the grease that remained in her hands. From this, and other penalties for the same offence, I fear that

* Whitaker's History of Manchester, II. 136.

the crime was not held by them to be of a very deep dye.

For lesser injuries they had pecuniary atonements. A Welshman for the loss of his finger received one cow and twenty pence; for his nose, six oxen and a hundred and twenty pence; and for being pulled by the hair, a penny for every finger, and two pence for the thumb, the instruments of insult. The Saxons had similar fines; and the Normans, like persons of nice honour, provided a penalty of five sous for a pull by the nose; and ten, *pour un coup au derriere.**

A compensation for the murder of a Mayor or Chancellor was nine score and nine cows; of the chief of a family, it was thrice that number; and of a King's villain, it was three score and three; and a pound and a half was a satisfa-

* Pennant, I. 290, who quotes *Leges Wallicæ.*

tion for the murder of a sound-bodied slave.*

The British Princes, and other Lords of particular territories, were owners *in capite*† of all their lands, and sovereign Lords of all their subjects and bondsmen, to whom they distributed several townships and hamlets, to be holden by particular tenures, and subject to such terms and conditions as the bestowers thought fit to impose. These tenants were either free natives, or the better sort of vassals, or they were perfect slaves. The free natives were those who had some degree of freedom, who might go where they pleased, had the power of buying and selling, and possessed several immunities; but the others formed part of the property of their Lords, and could be disposed of as they pleased. They

* *Leges Wallicæ.*

+ Or *in chief*, holding their lands as tenants under the King, or Prince of the country.

had

had the power of selling them and their offspring, as they would cattle, from their estates, and this custom remained in the township of Porthaethwy, in Anglesey, for many years after the reign of the Welsh princes.* Mr. Pennant, in his Tour,† has inserted a copy of a deed of sale, of seven of them, with their families, which was given so lately as the year 1448.

The tenants, both free and bond, were subject to several services, which they were obliged to perform. They were not only compellable to attend the King in his wars; but they were under the necessity of attending their Lords, when engaged in their petty contentions, some for a limited time, and only to particular places; but others indefinitely to any place, and at their own cost.

* Rowland's *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*, p. 121, 122.

† Vol. II. p. 241,

Certain of them had to maintain the Prince's steward, his horses and cattle, his falconers and hawks, &c. In the building of houses or mills, some from their tenures were obliged to carry the stones, others timber, some to repair the roofs, and some the walls. Some had also to repair the wears, others to hedge the warrens, and others also to attend the offices of the larder or kitchen.*

Besides these tenures, there were certain lands, that were not holden under any Lord or Prince, but of Saints, or patrons of churches, where the tenants called themselves Abbots. Of these there were no less than seven in the Isle of Anglesea, that were entitled *in capite* to several tenures, viz. St. Breuno, St. Cybi, St. Cadwaladr, St. Peirio, St. Cyngar, St. Machutus or Mechell, and St. Elian.†

* Rowland's Mona, p. 127, 129.

† Ibid, p. 133.

The

The barbarous custom of exempting from capital punishment, even the most atrocious assassin, by payment of a fine, was retained much longer in this country than in any part of Britain. It was practised by the Lord Marchers in the fifteenth century, and continued in some parts of Merionethshire till the latter end of the reign of Henry VIII. when it was entirely abolished.*

The Welsh had, prior to the reign of Henry V. a custom, called the ASSACH, by which it was necessary to have the oath of three hundred men, before a person could be cleared who was accused of any crime. Before its abolition by this monarch, an Englishman was liable to continue in gaol for life, as it seems impossible for one of our hated nation to procure even a far less number of compurgators than this strange law required

* Pennant's Tour, I. 788.

for his acquittal. Henry made the attempt penal, and the prosecutor liable to an imprisonment for two years, to pay treble damages, and to pay beside a fine and ransom before he could be released.*

The Welsh, who followed the pleasures of the chace with great avidity, had several animals which were the objects of their pursuit. Of these were, the stag; the bear; a swarm of bees; the salmon; *Y Dringbedydd*; climbing animals, probably wild cats, martins, and squirrels; the cock of the wood; the fox; the hare; and the roe. Some of these come very improperly under our idea of hunting; yet were comprehended in the code of laws relative to the diversion formed, as is supposed, by Gryffydd ap Cynan.

The method of hunting, was with either hounds or greyhounds, which they held in leashes, and let slip at the ani-

* Pennant, I. 389.

mals. It was not allowed for any person to kill an animal of the chace, on its form or at rest, on pain of forfeiting his bow and arrow to the Lord of the Manor. When several greyhounds, the property of different persons, were let slip at any animal, the person, whose dog was nearest the beast when it was last in sight, was entitled to the skin. A bitch was excepted, unless it was proved, that she was pregnant by a dog which had before won a skin.

Every person who carried a horn, was to give a scientific account of the nine objects of the chace. If he was not able to do this, he was looked upon as a pretender, and forfeited his horn.

The Chief Huntsman was the tenth officer in the court. At a certain time of the year, he was to hunt for the King only; but, at other seasons, he was permitted to hunt for himself. His horn

was

was that of an ox of a pound value. He had in winter an ox's hide, to make leafshes; and in summer a cow's, to cut into spatterdashes.

The King had liberty to hunt wherever he pleased; but, if a beast was killed on any gentleman's estate, and not followed and claimed by the huntsman that night, the owner of the land might convert it to his own use; but he was to take good care of the dogs, and preserve the skin.

The penalty for killing one of the King's tame stags was a pound, and a certain fine; if a wild one was killed, betwixt a certain day in November and the feast of St. John, it's value was sixty pence; but the fine for killing it, a hundred and eighty. A stag was reckoned equal in value to an ox; a hind to a well-grown cow, a roe to a goat, and wild fow to a tame sow. A badger had

no value, because in some years it was measled: wolves, foxes, and other noxious animals, had no value, because every person was allowed to kill them; and there was none set upon a hare for this very singular reason, because it was believed every other month to change its sex.*

The Welsh had anciently twenty-four games, most of which were well calculated to render them that hardy and warlike nation they have proved themselves. Of these, the first were the six feats of activity:—running; leaping; swimming; wrestling; riding, or feats in chariots of war; and display of strength, in supporting and hurling weights, such as pitching the bar, or a large stone, and throwing the fledge, or quoits.

Then the four exercises of weapons: archery, throwing the javelin, and to hurl with a sling; fencing with a sword

* Pennant, II. 127, 128, 129. and

and buckler; fencing with a two-handed fword; and playing with the quarterstaff.

The three rural sports:—hunting; fishing; and hawking.

The seven domestic and literary games:—poetry; playing on the harp; reading Welsh; singing a song with the harp and Crwth; singing an ode in four parts with accentuation; heraldry; and embassify.

The four inferior games:—chess; draughts, and shuffleboard; dice, or back gammon;* and tuning the harp.†

From ancient, I will now descend to modern times, from that hardy race of warlike characters, which were with so much difficulty subdued by the English monarchs, to their present peaceful state,

* Our present game of back-gammon seems to have been taken from this; its name being evidently derived from the British words *bach* and *gammon*, which signify a little battle or contest.

+ Jones's Welsh Bards, p. 36.

in which they enjoy happiness, that, in feudal times, they never experienced.

In those mountainous, or secluded parts of the country, that are scarcely known to the English tourist, where their manners still retain the greatest degree of originality, the lower class of the inhabitants appear to possess an innocence and simplicity of character, unknown in the populous parts of our own country; and amongst these it is, that we are to search for that native hospitality, so much boasted of by the Welsh writers: but, wherever the English have had frequent communication, from their being in general so profuse of their money, and from the temptation that this has afforded to practise impositions on them, I have found the people but little differing from the like class amongst us. On the great roads, they seem to take a pride in over-reaching, in most of their little bargains,

gains, their Saxon neighbours, as they denominate the English. A Welsh gentleman informed me, (and in many instances I have experienced it's truth) that it is a common practice amongst them, to ask nearly as much more for an article, as they mean to take, and with those who know them, it is always usual to offer them less. This is the case in some measure, in our own country, but certainly not so frequently as in Wales.

The Welsh people have in general a rustic bashfulness and reserve, which by strangers unused to their manners, has been often mistaken for sullenness. They are generally said to be very irascible. This may be so, but I am inclined to think, that the natural rapidity of their expression, in a language not understood, has alone been frequently construed into passion, when there has been nothing of the kind. Persons who

form

form ideas from the opinions of others, without taking the pains to make observations for themselves, are very often misled, and such I am confident has been the case a thousand times, in the judgments that have been formed of this circumstance.

They have every appearance of being most miserably poor. Their cottages are frequently constructed of stones, whose interstices are filled up with peat or mud, and so careful are they of glass, that their windows are scarcely large enough to light around their wretched sheds.

Their general food is bread, cheese, and milk; and sometimes, what they call flummery, which is made of oatmeal and milk, mixed together and then boiled. Animal food, or ale, are not among their usual fare.

The women in the mountainous parts are generally about the middle size, though more frequently below, than above it, and though their features are often very pretty, their complexions are for the most part somewhat fallow. They wear long blue cloaks,* that descend almost to their feet; these they are seldom to be seen without, even in the very hottest weather, owing most probably, to the sudden showers, which the attraction of the mountains renders them liable to be taken in. In North Wales, they have all hats, similar to those of the men, and they wear blue stockings, without any feet to them, which they keep down by a kind of loop, that is put round one of their toes. In the most unfrequented parts, they seldom

* Blue was a favourite colour among the Britons, from the earliest periods. There is an ancient Welsh proverb, " True blue keeps its hue."

wear any shoes, except on a Sunday, or the market-day, and even then they often carry them in their hands, as they go along the roads; I have seen them by six or eight together, seated on the bank of a rivulet, after their journeys from the neighbouring villages, washing their feet, before they entered the towns. In these journeys, if their hands are not otherwise employed, they generally occupy their time in knitting, and I have sometimes seen that, even a heavy fall of rain would not compel them to give it up. Their employment within doors is chiefly in spinning wool.

The Welsh people are naturally inquisitive and curious, but this is by no means a circumstance peculiar to this country. In all wild and unfrequented parts of the world, it is the same, and it is only in such parts of Wales that this disposition is the most observable. Dr. Franklin,

Q 2 has

has told us that this curiosity prevailed so much in America, that when he travelled in that country, if he only wished to ask the road, he found it expedient to save time, by prefacing his question with " My name is Benjamin Franklin "—by trade a printer—am come from " such a place—and going to such a " place ; and now---which is my road ?" In all travels, through unfrequented countries, we find it very common ; and from the inquisitive dispositions of men in general, where novelty lays such hold upon their attention, it would even seem strange, were we not to find it so.

They are much inclined to superstition. But in all countries, there are weak and foolish people ; in England, many of our peasantry are ready to swallow, with the most credulous avidity, any ridiculous stories of ghosts, hobgoblins, or fairies. In Wales it is

more general, and the people are certainly more credulous than the generality of the English. There are very few of the mountaineers, who have not by heart a whole string of legendary tales of those disembodied beings.

The Roman Cavern, in Llanymynech hill, called Ogo, has been long noted, as the residence of a clan of the fairy tribe, of whom the villagers relate many surprizing and mischievous tricks. They have listened at the mouth of the cave, and have sometimes even heard them in conversation, but always in such low whispers, that their words have been never distinguishable. The stream that runs across it, is celebrated as being the place, in which they have been heard to wash their clothes, and do several other kinds of work.

These busy little folk, seem to be somewhat allied to what are called

Knockers,

Knockers, which by the Welsh are believed to be a species of ærial beings, that are heard underground, in or near mines, who by their noises direct the miners where to find a rich vein. The following extraordinary account of them, is from a letter of Mr. Lewis Morris, to his brother, Mr. William Morris, Comptroller of the customs at Holyhead, dated October the 14th. 1754. I will make no comment upon it, and only preface it by observing, that Mr. Morris, was a very learned and sensible man, and a person whose judgment is esteemed of great weight, by every one who has been either acquainted with him or his writings. “ People who know very little of arts or sciences, or the powers of nature, (which in other words, are the powers of the author of nature) will laugh at us Cardiganshire miners, who maintain the existence of

Knockers

Knockers in mines, a kind of good-natured impalpable people, not to be seen, but heard, and who seem to us to work in the mines; that is to say, they are types, or forerunners of working in mines, as dreams are of some accidents which happen to us. The barometer falls before rain or storms. If we did not know the construction of it, we should call it a kind of dream, that foretells rain; but we know it is natural, and produced by natural means, comprehended by us. Now how are we sure, or any body sure, but that our dreams, are produced by the same natural means? There is some faint resemblance of this in the sense of hearing; the bird is killed before we hear the report of the gun. However this is, I must speak well of these *Knockers*, for they have actually stood my very good friends, whether they are aërial beings, called

called spirits, or whether they are a people made of matter, not to be felt by our gross bodies, as air and fire, and the like."

" Before the discovery of *Esgair y Mwyn* mine, these little people, as we call them here, worked hard there day and night; and there are abundance of honest sober people, who have heard them, and some persons who have no notion of them, or of mines either; but, after the discovery of the great ore, they were heard no more."

" When I began to work at *Llwyn Llwyd*, they worked so fresh there for a considerable time, that they even frightened some young workmen out of the work. This was when we were driving levels, and before we had got any ore; but when we came to the ore, they then gave over, and I heard no more talk of them."

" Our

" Our old miners, are no more concerned, at hearing them *blasting*, boring holes, landing *deads*, &c. than if they were some of their own people; and a single miner will stay in the work, in the dead of the night, without any man near him, and never think of any fear or harm they will do him; for they have a notion, that the *Knockers* are of their own tribe and profession, and are a harmless people, who mean well. Three or four miners together, shall hear them sometimes, but if the miners stop to take notice of them, the *Knockers* will also stop; but let the miners go on at their own work, suppose it is *boring*, the *Knockers* will go on as brisk as can be, in landing, *blasting*, or beating down the *loose*; and they were always heard a little, from them, before they came to the ore."

" These

" These are odd assertions, but they are certainly facts, though we cannot, and do not pretend to account for them. We have now very good ore at *Llwyn Llwyd*, where the *Knockers* were heard to work, but have now yielded up the place, and are no more heard. Let who will laugh, we have the greatest reason to rejoice and thank the *Knockers*, or rather God, who sends us these notices."

An intelligent friend of mine informs me that these noises of the *Knockers*, as they are called, have very lately been heard in the parish of Llanvihangel Ysgeiviog, in Anglesea, where they continued at different intervals for some weeks. In accounting for these noises it has been observed, that they probably proceeded either from the echo of the miners at work, or from the dropping of water; but these seem by no means sufficient, if Mr. Morris's assertion be true,
that

that while the miners are going on with one kind of work, they are going on with another, while for instance, as he says, the *miners* are *boring*, they are *blasting*, the former certainly cannot be true, and the blasting entirely puts the latter conjecture out of the question, for the droppings of water could never produce any effect of that kind. As I am only acquainted with the subject from report, I am under the necessity of leaving the elucidation of these extraordinary facts, to some who have better opportunities of enquiring into them. I have only to express a hope that the subject will not be neglected, and that those who reside in any neighbourhood where they are heard, will enquire into them carefully, and if possible, give to the world a more accurate account of them, than the present.

As

As soon as it is dark on the evening before Michaelmas-day, the Welsh people kindle great fires near their houses, and generally, where they can have it, on a large stone upon an eminence.

X These they call *Coelcerth*, or bonfires, and Rowlands, in his *Mona*, supposes this custom to have originated with the Druids and to have been intended by them as an offering of thanksgiving, for the fruits of the harvest. The Druids had also another at the vernal equinox, to implore a blessing from the Deity on the fruits of the earth. On Michaelmas-eve, several hundreds of these fires may sometimes be seen at once, round each of which are numbers of the labouring people, dancing hand in hand, “ in merry glee,” shouting and singing, in the most riotous and frantic manner. In many places they retain a custom of each throwing stones or nuts into the flame,

by

by which they pretend to foretell the good, or ill luck, that will attend them in the ensuing year.

On the eve of St. John the baptist, they fix sprigs of the plant called St. John's Wort, over their doors, and sometimes over their windows, in order to purify their houses, and by that means drive away all fiends, and evil spirits, in the same manner as the Druids were accustomed to do with Vervain.

They have a firm belief in witches; and consequently, many old women, merely because they happen to be old and ugly, are forced to bear all the blame of the cows not yielding milk, or of the butter not forming in the churn. They are also believed to possess the power of inflicting any disorder they think proper, on man or beast, and that they never neglect to do it, if they have been offended. There are now living two

cele-

celebrated conjurors, or fortune-tellers, who are consulted by all the neighbours, when their goods, or cattle are missing; these are Sionet Gorn, of Denbigh, and Dick Simot, of Oswestry.

The young people have many pretended modes of foretelling their future sweethearts, but most of these being common also amongst the peasantry of our own country, it would be useless here to repeat them.

I have been informed, that a disorder something similar to St. Anthony's fire, called *Yr Eryr*, the eagle, is supposed by the labouring people to be always cured by the following kind of charm. A man or woman whose father, grandfather, or great-grandfather, have eaten the flesh of that bird, is to spit upon the part affected, and rub it, and they say that it will certainly go away. A fervent girl, belonging to a friend of mine,

who

who resides in Wales, says she was cured of this complaint by an old man, whose grandfather had eaten of an eagle's flesh ; he made use also of some words, to assist in the charm, which she did not comprehend.

There is an opinion, very commonly received within the Diocese of St. David's, in Pembrokeshire, that a short time before the death of any person, a light is frequently seen proceeding from the house, and even sometimes from the bed, where the sick person lies, and pursues it's way to the church where the corpse is to be interred, precisely in the same track, in which the funeral is afterwards to follow. This light is called *Canwyll Corp^b*, or the corpse candle.

I have been told of a strange custom that prevails in some parts of North Wales, which no doubt, the clergy study to abolish, as much as lays in their power.

er. When any person supposes himself highly injured, it is not uncommon for him to repair to some church, dedicated to a celebrated Saint, as Llan Elian, in Anglesea, and Clynog in Caernarvonshire, and there as it is termed to *offer* his enemy. He kneels down on his bare knees in the church, and offering a piece of money to the Saint, utters the most virulent imprecations, calling down curses and misfortunes upon the offender and his family for generations to come, all which they have a firm belief, will come to pass. Sometimes instead of a church, they repair to some of the sacred wells, that are dedicated to the Saints. Mr. Pennant,* mentions his being threatened by a fellow, who fancied he had been injured by him, “with “the vengeance of St. Elian, and a jour-

* See his Tour, Il. 337.

“ ney

"ney to his well, to curse him with effect."

Some of these wells, are in great repute for the cure of diseases, by means of the intercession of the Saint. The Saints are also applied to, when any kind of goods are lost, and are made the instruments of recovering them, or of discovering the thief who has stolen them.

St. George had formerly in the parish of Abergeley, in Caernarvonshire, his holy well, at which this British mars, had his offering of horses, for the rich were, at certain times, accustomed to offer one, to secure his blessing on all the rest. St. George was the tutelar Saint of those animals; and all that were distempered, were brought to this well, sprinkled with the water, and had this blessing bestowed: *Rhad Duw a Saint*

† Siors arnat, “the blessing of God, and St. George be on thee.”

In the churches, when the name of the Devil occurred, an universal spitting used formerly to seize the congregation, as if in contempt of that evil spirit ; and whenever Judas was mentioned, they expressed their abhorrence of him, by smiting their breasts.

If a *Ffynnon Vair*, or well of our Lady, or any other saint was near, the water for baptism, was always brought from thence ; and after the ceremony was over, old women were very fond of washing their eyes in the water of the font.

Upon Christmas day, about three o'clock in the morning, most of the parishioners assembled in the church, and after prayers and a sermon, continued there singing psalms, and hymns with great devotion, till it was day-light ;
and

and if, through age or infirmity, any were disabled from attending, they never failed having prayers at home, and carols on our Saviour's nativity. The former part of the custom is still in some places preserved, but too often perverted into intemperance. This act of devotion is called *Pulgen*, or the *crowing of the cock*. It has been a general belief among the superstitious, that instantly

“at his warning,
Whether in sea, or fire, in earth, or air,
Th’ extravagant, and erring spirit, hies
To his confine.”

But during the holy season, the cock was supposed to exert his power throughout the night; from which undoubtedly originated the Welsh word *Pulgen*, as applied to this custom. Accordingly Shakespere finely describes this old opinion :*

* Pennant, II. 340.

Some say, that ever 'gainst that season comes,
Wherein our SAVIOUR's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long :
And then, they say, no spirit walks abroad :
The nights are wholesome : then no planets strike :
No fairy takes : no witch hath power to charm,
So hallow'd, and so gracious is the time.

The lower class of people of Caernarvonshire, Anglesea, and part of Merionethshire, have a mode of courtship, which, till within these few years, was scarcely ever heard of in this kingdom. The lover generally comes, under the shadow of the night, and is taken, without any kind of reserve, into the bed of his fair one. Here, as it is generally understood, with part of his clothes still on, he breaths his tender passion, and " tells how true he loves." This custom seems to have originated in the scarcity of fuel, and in the disagreeableness of sitting together in cold weather, without fire. Much has been said of the innocence, with which those meet-

ings are conducted ; it may be so in some cases, but it is certainly not an uncommon thing, for a son and heir to be brought into the world, within two or three months after the marriage ceremony has taken place. No notice seems however to be taken of it, provided the marriage is over, before the living witness is brought to light. As this custom is entirely confined to the labouring people, it is not so pregnant with danger, as it might otherwise be supposed, for both parties being poor, they are constrained to marry, in order to secure their reputation, and by that means, a method of getting a livelihood.

Their weddings are generally attended with noise and riot, being dedicated by the guests to little else than drinking and singing. On the appointed day, as many of the neighbours and friends

as

as can be collected together, attend the couple to the church, and from thence, after the ceremony, home again. Here a collection is made amongst the guests, to defray the expences of the occasion, and frequently to aid in establishing the new married couple in the world. At these times they are often so extravagant, that many of them have literally to starve, perhaps for near a month afterwards, in order to make up the sum they thus foolishly expend ; and it is from improvidence of this kind, and the smallness of their earnings, that the people are kept so miserably poor. In South Wales, previous to their weddings, a herald with a crook, or wand, adorned with ribands, sometimes makes the circuit of the neighbourhood, and makes his “ bidding,” or invitation, in a prescribed form. But the Knight errant cavalcade on horseback—the carrying off

off the bride---the rescue---the wordy war, in rhyme between the parties, &c. which formed a singular spectacle of mock contest at the celebration of nuptials, is now almost, if not altogether laid aside, throughout every part of the principality.

The funerals, are also attended by great crowds of people, all the relatives and neighbours of the person deceased, being invited. The custom of the congregation making offerings of money, on those occasions, is I believe peculiar to North Wales, and has no doubt been retained from the Roman Catholic religion, where the money was given for singing of mass, for the soul of the deceased. It is now only considered as a mark of respect paid to the clergyman, for if he is not liked, the offerings are made on the coffin, at the door of the house, where the person resided, and distributed

~~August 16~~

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tributed amongst the poor relatives. But when they are made in the church, the morning or evening service, for the day is first read ; the clergyman reading two prayers from the funeral service, and then the general thanksgiving, and the rest of the service, at the altar table. When the prayers are concluded, the next of kin to the deceased, comes forward, and puts down sixpence, or a shilling, if they are poor ; but where they are more opulent, half a crown, or a crown, and sometimes even so much as a guinea. This example is followed by the other relatives, and afterwards by the rest of the congregation that are able, who advance in turns, and offer. When the offering of silver is ended, there is a short pause, after which those who are not able to afford more, come forward and put down each a penny, (a half-penny not being admitted). The collections

lections thus made, amount sometimes to ten or fifteen pounds, but where the relatives are indigent, to not more than three or four shillings. If the relatives are poor, but particularly where a man, or woman, is left with a number of children, the money is usually given to them by the clergyman. After the collection is entirely finished, the remainder of the burial service is read, and the awful ceremony is closed. The offerings at Llanpublic, and Caernarvon, are said, upon an average, to amount to seventy five, or eighty pounds a year: I have been told, that it is the intention of the clargy of North Wales, to abolish this custom, if possible.

It is usual in Caernarvonshire, and some other parts of North Wales, for the nearest female relative of the deceased, be she widow, mother, sister, or daughter, to pay some poor person of the

the same sex, and nearly of the same age with the deceased, for procuring slips of yew, box, and other evergreens, to strew over, and ornament the grave, for some weeks after the interment ; and in some instances for weeding and adorning it, on the eves of Easter, Whitsuntide, Christmas, and some other particular days, for a year or two afterwards. The money is given to the person on a plate, at the door of the house, where the body is standing on a bier. This gift is called *Diodlys*, for formerly instead of it the person used to receive from the hand of the female relative, a cheese with a piece of money stuck in it, and some white bread, and afterwards a cup of drink, but this practice is now entirely discontinued ; the gift however, still retains its old name. When this ceremony is over, the clergyman, or in his absence, the parish clerk says the Lord's prayer,

prayer, after which they proceed with the corpse. Four of the nearest of kin take the bier upon their shoulders, a custom considered as the highest respect ^{even} that filial piety can pay to the deceased. If the distance from the house to the church is considerable, they are relieved by some of the congregation, but they again take it, in order to carry it in and out of the church. I have been told that it is usual in some parts, to set down the bier at every cross way, between the house and the church, and again repeat the Lord's prayer, and to do the same when they enter the church-yard. They generally sing psalms on the way, by which the stillness of rustic life is often broke into, in a manner finely productive of religious reflections.

In some places it was customary for the friends of the dead, to kneel and say the Lord's prayer over the grave, for several

several Sundays after the interment, and then to dress the grave with flowers.

Among the Welsh, it was reckoned fortunate for the deceased, if it should rain while they were carrying him to church, that his bier might be wet with the dew of heaven.*

I have observed, that in many parts of Wales, as well as England, the relations most ridiculously crowd all into that part of the church-yard, which is South of the church; the north, or as they term it the *wrong side*, being accounted unhallowed ground, and fit only to be the dormitory of still-born infants, and suicides.

Mr. Pratt,† has given us a most animated, and enchanting description of the neatness of the Welsh church-yards, and of the care that is taken by the relations, of the graves of their kindred,

* Pennant, II. 339. † Gleanings through Wales.

but

but I am sorry to say, that if this gentleman has stated facts, they must be not, as he has asserted, ~~in~~ general, but completely local; I never saw, nor could ever during the whole of the three months I spent in Wales, hear of the graves being weeded every saturday, "of their being every week, planted with the choicest flowers of the season," or that if a nettle or weed, were seen on the Sunday morning, the living party to whom the grave, on which it was seen belonged, "would be hooted, after divine service, by the whole congregation." Mr. P. throughout the whole of his volumes, seems to have mingled too much of the novelist with his observations. To this there would be less objection, if by some previous hint, he could apprise us of the entire of the former: the characters which ought never to be confounded, might thus be kept distinct. But when a writer, who

seems

seems to think himself entitled to credit (and in general perhaps not without reason) in relating his real adventures, condescends to embellish his account with fiction, however I may admire his abilities, I cannot help reprobating his practice.

The clergy of North Wales are in general very respectable men, and their churches pretty well attended. The livings are in general rectories, and the incumbents for the most part men that have been educated at one of the universities. These circumstances place them upon a much more respectable footing than those of the southern division of the principality, whose stipends, I have been told, are so slender as to render their situations almost worse than those of the labouring class of the community.*

* The reader will find an account of the Methodists, in the account of Caernarvon, Vol. I. p. 177, &c.

CHAP. XIII.

BARDISM AND MUSIC.—SHORT HISTORY OF THE DRUIDS—RELIC OF DRUIDICAL SACRIFICE YET EXISTING—SOLEMNITIES—MODE OF INSTRUCTION—DRESS—REFORMATION OF THE BARDS BY GRIFFITH AP CYNAN—THE EISTEDDFOD—DEGREES IN POETRY AND MUSIC—BARDIC HISTORY CONTINUED—ACCOUNT OF THE HARP—OF AN ANCIENT ONE IN TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY DUBLIN—DAFYDD AP GWYLYM'S SINGULAR ABUSE OF THE LEATHERN HARP—THE CRWTH—PIBCORN—CHARACTER OF THE WELSH MUSIC—FIFTEEN WELSH AIRS.

THE ancient British Bards, were divided into three essential classes of Derwydd, Bardd, and Ovydd,* or Druid, Bard,

* Strabo, lib. XV. *Derwydd* means the body of the oak, and, by implication, the man of the oak, from the British

Bard, and Ovate. Of these there was one chief head, called the Arch Druid, to whom the whole rendered an implicit obedience, and by whom they were guided in conducting their most important affairs.* He was esteemed supreme throughout the whole nation, and to his tribunal the people annually assembled, and in appeals that were made to him, he gave a final judgment, to which the parties were obliged to abide.† On the death of the Arch Druid, the next in dignity and reputation succeeded him; but if the merits of several were equal, the election was made by the collected votes of the inferior orders.‡ The habitation of the

tish word *derw*, an oak, and *ydd*, a termination of nouns.

22 *Bardd* signifies the branching or what springs from, derived from *bár*, a branch, or the top. *Ovydd* implies the disciple, from *ôv*, raw, and *ydd*, above explained. *Jones's Bards*, p. 2.

* His omnibus Druidibus præest unus, qui sammam inter eos habet auctoritatem. *Cæsar, Lib. vi. S. 13.*

† *Ibid.*

‡ *Ibid.*

British

British Arch Druid is supposed to have been near Llanidan, on the south east coast of Anglesea, where are said, even yet, to be left some slight vestiges of Tre'r Dryw *the Arch Druid's mansion*: Bôd-Drudaû, *the abode of the Druids*: and near them Bôd-owyr, *the residence of the Ovates*, and Tre'r Beirdd, *the abode of the Bards.**

The Druids were employed chiefly in the exercise of religious functions, and it was their prerogative to preside over the rites and mysteries of their religion. The office of the Bards was to sing to the multitude their religious precepts; to sing to the harp at their nuptials, and funeral obsequies, their games and other solemnities; and, at the head of the armies, to chant the praises of those who had signalized themselves by virtuous, or heroic actions. The Ovate appears to have conducted the most trivial duties appertaining to their religion,

* Rowland's *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*, 235, 236.

and as a disciple to have been in preparation by the study of nature, for the higher and more important offices of Bard and Druid.

Mr. Mason, in his tragedy of Caractacus, has recognized all these orders where having spoken of the Arch Druid, he says,

His brotherhood,
Possess the neighbouring cliffs,
On the left
Reside the sages skill'd in nature's lore :
Yonder grotts,
Are tenanted by bards, who nightly thence
Rob'd in their flowing vests of innocent white,
Descend with harps that glitter to the moon,
Hymning immortal strains.

The Druids and Bards were the divines, the legislators,* and physicians of the ancient Britons; they composed hymns for the use of the temples, and accompa-

* They are supposed to have been the first framers of laws in Britain. The first written laws are said to have been those of Dyvnwal Moelmuud, King of Britain, 440 years before Christ, called the Maelmuudian Laws.

nied them with their harps. They sang the essence and immortality of the soul; the works of nature; the course of celestial bodies; the order and harmony of the spheres; and the encomiums on the virtues of eminent men.* In later periods, they kept an account of the descent of families, emblazoned their arms, and composed songs on the valiant actions of illustrious warriors, in heroic verse, which they chanted to their harps, and consequently were the national historians; and from them much of the ancient history of this country has been collected.

The Druids were accounted the first and most distinguished order of the nation: they were frequently chosen from the most respectable families: and the honors of their birth, aided by those of their function, procured them the highest veneration amongst the people. The au-

* Cæsar, Lib. VI. s. 14.

thority even of the Kings, was greatly controuled by them ; for, being considered as the interpreters of the Gods, their power, and consequently the honor paid to them, was incredibly great.

On all important occasions, the Bards were ambassadors between contending chiefs; and their persons were at all times held sacred. “Cairbar,” says Ossian, “feared to stretch his sword to the Bards, though his soul was dark. “Loose (said the noble Cathmor) the Bards. They are the sons of other times. Their voice shall be heard in other years, when the Kings of Temora have failed.” They, as well as the Druids, were exempted from all military services, even in times of the greatest danger;* and, when they attended their patrons into the field, to sing their heroic actions, they had a guard assigned them for their protection.

* Cæf. Lib. VI. f. 14.

Whatever religious opinions the Druids might privately entertain, they certainly, in public, either worshipped a multiplicity of Deities, or one God under several titles and appellations; of which was Teutates, or Mercury, the inventor of arts, and the chief conductor of travels and expeditions; then, next in order, came Apollo, Mars, Jupiter, and Minerva, under different British names.* To these they offered human victims. On solemn occasions, they reared huge images, whose members, wrought with oziers, they filled with living men, or with different kinds of animals; and, setting fire to them, consumed these miserable victims, as sacrifices to their cruel Deities. Thieves, robbers, and other malefactors, were preferred for this purpose; but if these were wanting, innocent persons were taken.† Diodorus

*Belin
Hesus
Thor
Belisama*

* Cæs. f. 17.

† Ibid, f. 16.—Strabo, VI. 198.

Siculus says,* that condemned criminals used to be reserved for five years; and, on a certain day, sacrificed all together. Captives of war were also immolated in the same manner. It was also an article in their creed, that nothing short of the life of a man, offered a sacrifice on their altars, could atone with the Gods for the death of another man.†

A singular relic of the ancient sacrifices of the Druids, is yet remaining in some parts of North Wales. When a violent disease breaks out amongst the horned cattle, the farmers of the district where it rages join, to give up a bullock for a victim, which is carried to the top of some neighbouring precipice, from whence it is thrown headlong down; and this they call “casting a captive to ‘the Devil.’”

* Strabo, V. 32.

+ Cæs. VI. 16.

It has been said, that the Druids ^{TL Egyptia} taught the Pythagorean doctrine of ^{Ll. a Reviv} transmigration of souls into other bodies; but Lucan and Marcellinus* both represent them as teaching, that the soul, after death, ascended into some higher orb, where it enjoyed more perfect happiness.

Their acts of worship were all performed in the open air; for they thought it derogated from the greatness of their Gods to confine them within walls. The places appropriated for this purpose appear to have been groves of oak. Pliny† says, “they dress and cultivate groves of oak; for, without that tree, or those groves, they never celebrate any part of their sacred functions.” These groves were great inclosures of tall and spreading oaks, surrounding their most sacred

* Lucan, I. 455.—Marcell. XV. 9.

† Hist. Nat. Lib. XVI. c. 44.

places.

places. In these they had their mounts and hillocks, which they called *Gorseddau*, from their sitting aloft upon them, when they pronounced their decrees and sentences, and made their solemn orations to the people; or their erected pillars, to which some think they yielded divine honors, as the memorials of their deified heroes.

They placed a very high mystery in the mistletoe* of the oak; for, when the end of their year was near, they marched in procession, with great solemnity, to gather it, in order to present it to their Deity; inviting all the world to assist at the ceremony, in these words:—“ *The NEW YEAR is at hand, gather the Mistle-*

* In some parts of Wales, the mistletoe was called *oll-iach*, all-heal; *pren-awyr*, the celestial tree; and *uechelwydd*, the lofty shrub. Besides this plant, the Druids ritually gathered *Lycopodium selago*, fir-leaved club-moss; and *Samolus valerandi*, a round-leaved water pimpernel, both of which they applied to medical uses,

“ *toe.*”

"*toe.*" The sacrifices being ready, the priest ascended the oak, and, with a golden hook, cut off the mistletoe, which was received in a white garment spread for the purpose. This part of the ceremony being ended, the victims, two white bulls that had never been yoked, were brought forth, and offered up with prayers, for the prosperity of those, to whom had been given so precious a boon. The mistletoe thus gathered, was deemed an antidote to all poisons; and they used it as a specific against sterility.

The most sacred solemnities of the Druids were usually performed on the *X* sixth day of the moon, which was always the first day of their months. But besides this, it appears probable, that they had also, with the generality of mankind, one day in seven set apart for divine worship. What other festivals, or anniversary solemnities, they had, we know

know not; yet it is not unlikely, but that they had set times, and peculiar celebrations, for many of their deified warriors.

To be excluded from their sacred rites, was esteemed the most grievous punishment that the Druids could inflict; and they had the power of doing this to any that they judged it proper. Those against whom this sentence of excommunication was pronounced, were considered as impious, and their society was shunned by all. They were denied the protection of the law, and were rendered incapable of any honor or trust. The Druids took every care to inculcate in the people, the indispensable obligation of their submitting to the necessary rites and duties of oblation and sacrifice, together with their own indisputable power, of designing and appropriating whatever persons or things they thought proper,

proper, for the cruel victims of their altars. This power, which was the chief prop of the Druidical authority, they retained to the last.

The disciples of the Druidical Bards underwent a noviciate of twenty years, during which time, they learned an immense number of verses, in which they preserved the principles of their religious and civil polity, by uninterrupted tradition, for many centuries. Though the use of letters was familiar to them, they did not deem it lawful to commit these verses to writing, in order that, by this means, they might strengthen their intellectual faculties, and keep their mysterious knowledge from the contemplation of the vulgar.

The metre, in which these oracular instructions were communicated to the people, was called *Englyn Milwr*, or the Warrior's Song; and is a kind of triplet stanza. That the English reader may have

have some idea of their construction, I have inserted, from Jones's Musical and Poetical Relics of the Welsh Bards,* translations of five of them. These have the same number of lines and feet as the original; and the sense is preserved, as near as the limits of the metre would allow. The two first lines do not seem to have much connection with the last; however, there appears to have been no small degree of art employed in their composition. In the first lines, the Druid describes, either actions that are familiar to every one, or the appearance of visible objects: he then concludes, with a precept of morality, or a proverbial sentence; and, by annexing to it *undoubted fact*, artfully implies, and engages the mind to receive the truth of the moral maxim, as equally clear and well-established as the identity of material objects.

In the oak's high-tow'ring grove,
Dwells the liberty I love.—
Bablers from thy trust remove.

Liberty I seek and have,
Where the green birchen branches wave.—
Keep a secret from a knave.

Snow a robe o'er hamlets flings;
In the wood the raven sings.—
Too much sleep no profit brings.

When the mountain snow is spread,
Stags love sunny vales to tread.—
Vain is sorrow for the dead.

Fair the moon's resplendent bow,
Shining on the mountain snow.—
Peace the wicked never know.

In all the orders of Druidism, the hair was worn very short, and the beards extremely long. All wore long habits; and the Druids, when performing their religious rites, had on robes of white, as emblems of truth and piety. The Bards at these times wore azure garments, with ^{wcs} ~~crosses~~ to them, as symbols of Heaven, peace, and fidelity; and the garments of the Ovates were green, the emblems of learning and truth.

The

The immense power that the Druids had acquired, drew upon them the vengeance of the Romans, who, in other instances, were not often intolerant. The pretext for first attacking them, was the cruelty committed in their sacred rites; but the true reason was certainly the great influence that they had obtained over the people. The authority of the Druids in Gaul, was, by various means, so much reduced in the time of Claudius, that they are said to have been entirely destroyed there, about the year 45, by that Emperor. And in Britain, Suetonius Paulinus, the Governor of the country under Nero, having taken the island of Anglesea, not only cut down the sacred groves of the Druids, and overturned their altars, but also consumed many of the Druids themselves, in those fires that had been kindled for sacrificing the Roman captives, had that army been defeated.*

* Tacit. Ann. XIV. 30.

Immediately after this event, those who escaped, fled from the country, and sought refuge in the adjacent islands of Ireland, the Isle of Man and Bardsey, places to which the Roman sword had not at that time reached. The theory of the British music is said to have moved with them, and to have settled in Ireland, which, from that period, continued, for many ages, the seat of learning and philosophy.

The Bards, having now lost their sacred Druidical character, began to appear in an honorable, though less dignified capacity, at the courts of the British Kings. The music, as well as the poetry, of Britain, no doubt received a tincture from the martial spirit of the times; and the Bards, who once had dedicated their profession to the worship of the Gods in their Sylvan temples, the celebration of public solemnities, and the praise of all the arts of peace, and who had repressed the fury of armies,

prepared to rush upon each other's spears; now,

“With other echo taught the shades
To answer and resound far other song.”

At the commencement of the sixth century, they began to resume the harp with unusual energy, to animate their country in their struggle with the Saxons; but, from the ninth to the eleventh, if we are to judge from the few pieces that are extant, composed during that period, their muse seems again to have received a check. The hiatus continues till the time of Prince Gryffydd ap Cynan, who, about 1100, reformed many disorders which prevailed amongst the bards. Being educated in Ireland, this Prince either from a partiality to the music of his own country, or on account of it's superior excellence to that of Wales, invited over from thence several of the most celebrated musicians, and formed a body of institutes, for the amend-

amendment of their manners, and the correction of their art and practice.*

This reformation was effected by dividing them into classes, and assigning to each class a distinct profession and employment. It was made their office, to applaud the living and to record the dead. They were required to possess learning and genius, a skill in pedigrees, an acquaintance with the laws and metres of poetry, a knowledge of harmony, a fine voice, and the command of an instrument. They were distributed into three grand orders, of poets, heralds, and musicians ; each of which again branched into subordinate distinctions.

The first class of the poets consisted of Historical or Antiquarian Bards, who at times mixed prophecy with their inspiration : they were also critics and teachers, and to them belonged the praise of virtue and the censure of vice. It was their duty to celebrate the gifts of fancy

* Powel's and Wynne's Histories of Wales.

and poetry. Of them it was required, to address married women without the air of gallantry; and the clergy, in a serious strain, suitable to their function; to satirize without indecency, and without lampooning; to answer and overthrow the lampoons of the inferior Bards.

The second class was formed of Domestic Bards, who resided in the houses of the great, to celebrate their exploits and amiable qualities; they sang the praises of generosity, contentment, domestic happiness, and all the social virtues: and, in this manner, eminently contributed to enliven the leisure of their patrons.

The third class consisted of the Herald Bards, who were the national chroniclers, and were also well versed in pedigrees and blazonry of arms, and in the works of the primary Bards. They could trace back the descents of their princes and

and nobles, as far as Beli, Sylvius, Æneas, or even to Adam himself. Their poetry was of a humbler kind: it was usually confined to subjects of jocularity and mimickry, invective and reproach.

Of the Musical Bards, the first class was appropriated to the performers on the harp: the second contained performers on the six-stringed Crwth. The third consisted of singers, whose employment it was, to sing to the harps of others, the compositions of the Poetical Bards; but from these, a variety of other qualifications was expected.

The Eisteddfod, the British Olympic, was a triennial assembly of the Bards, for the regulation of poetry and music; for conferring honorary degrees, and advancing to the chair of the Eisteddfod, by the decision of a poetical and musical contest, some of the rival candidates; or establishing, in that honorable

seat, the Chief Bard, who had already occupied it. This assembly was usually held at Aberffraw, the royal seat of the ancient Princes of North Wales; in Anglesea; or sometimes at Dinevawr, in Caermarthenshire, the castle of the Princes of South Wales; or Mathraval, in Montgomeryshire, the royal palace of the Princes of Powys.

Before any person could be enrolled in the Eisteddfod, the permission of the Prince or Lord, within whose jurisdiction he lived, was to be obtained. If he desired to proceed to degrees in poetry, he was obliged, at his presentation, to explain the five metres of song; and to sing them in such a manner, that one of the principal Bards would declare upon his conscience, that he was competent to be admitted. He then became a pupil of some one of the principal Bards, whom he was obliged to attend

annually in Lent, and without whose approbation he could make no composition public; and, during three years, that is, till the next Eisteddfod, he remained an under-graduate, and was called *Disgybl yspas cerdd davod*, a *probationary Student of Poetry.*

At the next Eisteddfod, he was examined for the degree of *Disgybl Disg y blaidd*, or *Bachelor of the Art of Poetry.*

After another like interval, the Bard took the degree of *Disgybl Penceirddi-aidd*, or *Master of the Art of Poetry*; for which it was requisite, that he should understand the rules of grammar and rhetoric; and analyse and explain the alliterative concatenations of the language; to escape all the errors; and to sing melodiously in parts twenty-one of the metres.

To the Pencerdd, or *Professor of Poetry*, who obtained his degree at the end of

of the same period, belonged the whole mystery of the art. He was able to sing in harmony or concord, and was well-versed in transposed alliteration. Among his qualifications, are enumerated fertility in poetical subjects; a store of matter and invention; authority of decision; and a facility in composing in praise of the great, what would be heard or received with the most delight, and longest retained in memory.

The degrees in music appear to have been much the same in form with those in poetry. The candidate was, for the first three years, a Probationary Student in music without a degree. At the end of that term, he became a Graduate Probationary Student. His second degree, at the end of six years, was Bachelor, and at the end of nine, was Master of Music; and, as in poetry, the highest degree was Pencerdd Athraw, or *Doctor of Music*.

If

If a disciple of any degree, was discovered in taverns, or secret places, playing for money at dice, or any other game, any person was authorized to take from him whatever money was found in his purse. For mockery and derision, and the invention or propagation of falsehood, they were punished by fine and imprisonment; for the laws say the Bards shall be easy and peaceful in their manners, friendly in their dispositions, and humble in their services to their prince, and his adherents.

The Eisteddfod, was a rigid school. The poetical, or musical disciple, who at the expiration of his triennial term was not able to obtain a higher degree, was condemned even to lose that which he had already possessed.

The Bards were ever held in the highest repute, by the British Kings, and Nobles. The Court Bard, or Laureat Bard, was in rank the eighth officer

cer of the King's household, and was very often of his council. Whoever lightly injured him, was fined six cows and a hundred and twenty pence ; and the murderer of a Bard was fined a hundred and twenty-six cows. He accompanied the army upon their march ; and, in the front of the battle, sang the ancient song, called the “ Monarchy of ^N Britain ;” and for this service, when the Prince had received the share of the spoils, he was rewarded with the most valuable beast that remained.

A vassal, by the practice of poetry and music, which he could not adopt without the permission of his Lord or Prince, acquired the privileges of a freeman, and an honorable rank in society.

Nothing can display more forcibly, the estimation and influence which the Bards enjoyed in the early periods, than their remarkable prerogative, of petitioning for presents by occasional poems.

ems. This custom they carried to such an excess, and such respect was constantly paid to their requests, that, in the time of Gryffydd ap Cynan, it became necessary to controul them by a law, which restrained them from asking for the Prince's horse, hawk, or greyhound, or any other possession beyond a certain price, or that was particularly valued by the owner, or could not be replaced.

The revenues of the Bards arose from presents, at princely or other nuptials; and from the fees that they received in their circuits at Christmas, Easter, Whitsuntide, and in their triennial *Clera*, or grand circuit, when they were received into the houses of the great, and continued so long as any feasting lasted. These fees and presents were regulated in proportion to their degrees. They were also allowed a certain sum out of every plough-

plough-land ; and, in proportion, out of every half plough-land of their district.

Besides the regular, or graduated Bards, there were four other classes of inferior, and unlicenced Bards; these were of the meaner, and more unskilful sort of musicians and poets, and were what might be termed *minstrels*. They were pipers, players on the three-stringed Crwth, laborers, and buffoons. They had no connection with the Eisteddfod ; and their estimation and their profits were equally inconsiderable.

The period that intervened, between the reign of Gryffydd ap Cynan, and that of the last Prince Llewelyn, is the brightest in the Welsh annals. It abounds with perhaps the noblest monuments of genius their nation can boast. The names of the Bards are numerous ; but their remains unluckily very few.

Early in the twelfth century, music and poetry had approached their utmost degree of perfection in Wales ; nor by the common fate of the arts in other countries, did they suddenly fall from the eminence they had attained. If during the succeeding age, they indicated any symptoms of decay, remedy was always, so diligently applied by the skill of the Eisteddfod, to the declining part, that they preserved their former vigour, and perhaps acquired even additional graces.

By the cruel policy of Edward I. who, though he had conquered this country, did not think himself secure in his triumph, whilst the warm and energetic songs of a race of men, deemed almost inspired, were permitted to overawe the vulgar, was affected a total massacre of the Welsh Bards. The ensuing scene to this, Gray had finely described :

On dreary Arvon's shore they lie
Smear'd with gore, and ghastly pale ;

Far,

Far, far aloof th' affrighted ravens sail,
The famish'd eagle screams and passes by.

The Bards after this “ Cambria’s fatal day,” were reduced to employ their sacred art in obscurity and sorrow, but while thus cramped in their poetical department, they had more leisure for the study of heraldry, and their other domestic duties.

By the insurrection, however under Owen Glyndwr, in the reign of Henry IV. the martial spirit of the British muse was once more revived, to celebrate the enterprizes of their heroic leader. Like him the bards of his time were “ irregular and wild ;” and as the taper glimmering in it’s socket, gives a sudden blaze before it is extinguished, so did they make one bright effort of their original and daring genius, which was soon afterwards buried, with their hero in the grave.

Under

Under the patronage of Henry VII. the Cambro-British muse was once more restored; the Eisteddfods, which had been discontinued were re-established, and the bards were employed in the honourable commission of making out, from their authentic records, the pedigree of their king.

After a long interval of anarchy amongst them, commissioners were appointed by Queen Elizabeth, to assemble an Eisteddfod at Caerwys, in the year 1568. They were instructed to advance the ingenious and skilful to the accustomed degrees, and to restore to the graduates, their ancient exclusive privilege of exercising their profession. “The rest not worthy,” were by this commission commanded to betake themselves to some honest labour, and livelihood, on pain of being apprehended, and punished as vagabonds.

From

From this time the bardic meetings seem to have again dwindled almost to nothing. A society in London called the *Greyneddigion*, or North Wales men, have in these late years endeavoured once more to raise them from oblivion, by convening annual meetings in some village or town, in North Wales, giving subjects for candidates to write upon, and honorary medals to such as are successful. One of the first of these meetings was held about eight years ago, at Corwen, in Merionethshire; and an Eisteddfod was assembled at Caerwys, on the 29th. of May, 1798. This meeting was well attended. The number of Bards was twenty, of vocal performers eighteen, and of harpers twelve.

From the earliest times the Bards were the British historians; in their
trien-

triennial Clera, or perambulation, they collected and wrote down all the memorable transactions that passed in every country, that it concerned their profession to notice. For this purpose they had a stipend paid to them, and a severe punishment of long imprisonment, loss of place, and dignity, and great disgrace, was by law inflicted upon such as misrepresented facts, or set down falsities. No man was permitted to describe any battle but such has had been an eye-witness thereof ; for some of the chief Bards were Marshals, of all battles ; they sat in council in the field, and were the King's, or General's intelligencers, how the action went on ; so that they could not be ignorant of any circumstance of importance that was going on in the field.

The

The musical instruments chiefly peculiar to this country are three, the Telyn or Harp, the Crwth, and the Pibcorn, or Hornpipe.



The principal of these is the Harp. This, which appears to have been the most ancient of all the musical instruments, deriving it's origin in the most remote periods of antiquity, was for-

merly so much in use in Wales, that to play upon it was an accomplishment indispensably requisite for every gentleman, and upon this it was that the chief musician, used formerly to perform in the courts of the Princes of Wales.

The most ancient harp of these countries, now remaining, is an Irish one, which is said to have belonged to Brian Boiromh, King of Ireland, who was slain in battle with the Danes, at Clontarf, near Dublin, in the year 1014. It is deposited in the Library of Trinity College, Dublin. It has only a single row of strings, is not quite a yard high and of extraordinary good workmanship. The sound board is of oak, the pillar and comb of red fallow, and the extremity of the uppermost bar, or comb, in part is capt with silver, extremely well wrought and chiseled, and it has been otherwise elegantly ornamented. It has had twenty eight strings. The bottom on which it rests is a little broken, and the wood

is much decayed. The whole bears evidence of an expert artist.

In early times the harp had only a single row of strings, it was made small and portable, and consequently much confined in the compass of its notes. It was necessary to tune it afresh, whenever the performer wished to change the key; but when any accidental sharp was requisite, in the middle of a tune, he ran up his hand close to the uppermost bar, and stopped the string dexterously with his thumb, whilst he played the note with his finger. This trick was preserved by some of the old harpers, of the last century, but I believe it is now quite lost.

By the ancient Welsh laws, the undergraduates were only permitted to use harps strung with horses hair, which they had curiously plaited. Some harps of this kind were remaining, amongst them, so lately as the beginning of the fifteenth century. The bodies of some

of these were covered with leather, fewed extremely tight at the back, over the wood, and the pegs which the strings were screwed with, were made of bone or ivory.

A Minstrel of the latter period has left us this description of himself, and his harp :

If I have my harp, I care for no more,
It is my treasure, I keep it in store ;
For my harp is made of a good mare's skin,
The strings be of horse-hair, it maketh good din.
My song, and my voice, and my harp doth agree,
Much like the buzzing of an humble bee ;
Yet in my country I do make pastime,
In telling of prophecy which be not in rhyme.*

Dafydd ap Gwilym,† a Welsh bard, who flourished about the end of the fourteenth century, in his *Cowydd y Delyn Ledr*, or Poem, on the leathern

* The first book of the Introduction of Knowledge, by Andrew Borde.

+ Or Dafydd Morganwg, Bard to Ivor Hael, (Lord of Maesalog, in Monmouthshire) and to the Monastery of Strata Florida. See his works, published by E. Williams, in the Strand, London.

harp, reprobates the use of it, in a most droll and entertaining manner. “Grant bounteous God,” says he “that the blessings may dawn of the mirthful manners of Wales in times of yore! The choicest spot; a fair garden for the enjoyment of life, thou wert, whilst the time of Clera continued, and the learning of the good old *Cymry*! Now, alas! cold the news; there is a noisy strumming amongst us of dismal crazy-sided harps, or leatherne wickets. David had not one string from dead sheep; long prosper the faith. The minstrels of the serious prophet, David, with all the cunning of their divination, never formed one harp exquisitely pleasing, but of shiny hair, yet pure the song! wise is the easy and sprightly description of the harp, strung with black glossy hair. The hair-strung harp, a worthy gift! by the bounty of heaven, which came complete to David, and was and henceforth shall continue from the

the beginning of the world : an ample thought ! till the day of doom ; awful contemplation !

“ There is none who would wish for life amongst us, should he be skilled in music ; for there is nothing but the din of this leatheren harp ; (fie on the office !) prosperous it shall not be, played with a horny nail of unpleasant form ;* only the graceless bears it. For a learner, it will be difficult in a month to put it in tune—the copper tinted strumpet ; an ugly plague, like the naked curve of the rainbow, a frightful form. It is the murmur of young sprawling crows, a pleasing brood affected by the rain. Having an ardent thirst for perfection I loved not it’s button-covered trough, nor it’s music ; nor it’s guts, sounding eventful

* Galileo in his dialogue on ancient, and modern music, says, the performer on the harp, let his nails grow to a considerable length, trimming them with great care, and forming them somewhat like the quills on the Jacks of a Harpsichord.

disgust ;

disgust ; nor it's yellow colour, nor it's gaudiness, nor it's unconnected angle, nor it's bending pillar ; it is the vile that loves it. Under the pressure of the eight fingers, ugly is the swell of it's belly, with it's canvas smock ; it's trunk and it's hoarse sound, were but formed for an age-worn Saxon. It is like the wild neighing, and dismal roar of some bay mare, after horses. The unceasing din through the night, is a perfect sister to the *frightful yellow bag of Rhôs*.*

“ It is the noise of a lame goose, amongst the corn ; a squealing foolish Irish witch ; it is the rumbling of the mill-stream, of Crazy Leap ; and like the shrieking wry-necked hare. It is the wooden fickle of a prude of yore, or the tottering shin of an old woman.

“ Let every musical professor from the English Marches, as far as Mona's Isle, learn to play upon a fair harp, with

* The Yellow Pestilence.

jetty hair ; and to impart instructions, as was usual in the time of our old fore-fathers ; I proclaim it ! as for the other giftless twanging one, let no disciple bear it in the face of day."

In process of time the double harp, or harp with two rows of strings, was invented which supplied the deficiency, and in some degree obviated the difficulty of playing the flats and sharps.

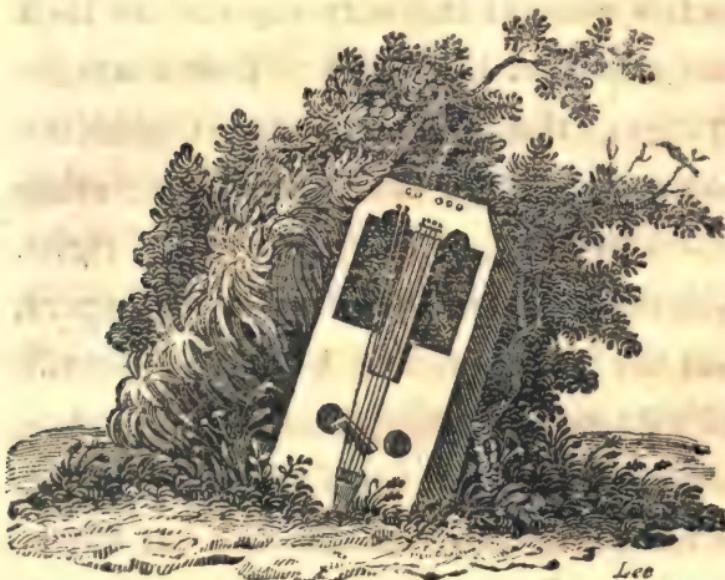
The next improvement was the triple harp, which seems to have been invented about the fourteenth century. This is the harp now in common use in this country. It extends in compass to five octaves, and one note. The two outside rows are the diatonics, which are both tuned in unisons, and in any key that the performer means to play in. The treble row consists of twenty seven strings ; that is from A in *alt*, down to C in the bass ; and the opposite row or unisons, (which is played with the bass hand) extends from A in *alt*,

alt, down as low as double G in the bass, which is thirty seven strings. The middle row being the flats and sharps, extend from *alto*, G sharp, down to double B natural, in the bass, consisting of thirty four strings. All the three rows together amount to ninety eight strings.

About forty years ago one Simon, of Brussels, made a still greater improvement upon the harp, by the addition of pedals, for producing the half tones. This instrument is capable of great expression, and of executing whatever can be played on the harpsichord. There are but thirty-three strings upon it, which are merely the natural notes of the diatonic scale ; the rest are made by the feet. It is an ingenious and useful contrivance, for by reducing the number of strings, the tones of those that remain are improved.

The Crwth, another of the Welsh national instruments, is now so nearly out of use that it is scarcely known at all.

Sir John Hawkins,* says, that in his time there was but one person, in the whole principality that could play on it, and this was a John Morgan, of Newborough, in the Isle of Anglesea, then near sixty years of age. I however met by chance with a person living at Caernarvon, who played to me several of the national tunes, upon this instrument.



*The end of the
Bridge shew
above the Ha
not below.*

It is in its general construction upon the same principle as the violin.† It's

* History of Music, II. 275.

† Its name is descriptive of its bellying form, as it implies any protuberance, such as a flask, a box, and the like; thus *Crwth Halen*, is a salt box.

sides are continued in a straight line, to its whole length, and as well as the finger board, are joined to a cross bar, in which the pegs are fixed; the upper part thus forming a frame round the hand, so that the outside edge forms nearly an oblong square, with the corners a little rounded. Its length is about twenty two inches, it is about ten inches wide at the bottom, and an inch and a half in thickness. There are six strings; the four first are conducted down the finger board, and the other two leave it about an inch to the right. The former are stopped with the fingers, and the others struck with the thumb. The strings are supported by a bridge, differing in form from that of a violin, in not being like that, convex, but flat at the top. It is played with a bow, which since it is drawn over all the strings at the same time, does not produce merely a succession of notes, but of concords. The two lower strings seem to serve as

a kind

a kind of bass accompaniment. The bridge is not placed at right angles to the sides, but in an oblique direction, one end of it entering one of the sound holes, and resting on the back, and the other being placed on the belly just above the opposite hole. It is tuned by pegs, with a key or wrest, in a manner similar to some of the guittars. When played upon, it is hung round the neck of the musician by a string, as both the thumb and fingers of the hand which it rests upon, are in motion.

The notes of each of the strings, and the method of tuning of them are as follow :

Tune the 5th to the 3rd.

To the third time, it's
Tune the 3rd to the 5th.

To the fourth time, it's
Tune the 4th to the 6th.

And to the first, it's
Tune the 1st to the 2nd.

The

The instrument I saw, seems to have been in it's scale quite different from those mentioned by Mr. Jones, in his account of the Welsh Bards, and by the Honorable Daines Barrington, in the *Archæologia*, of the Antiquarian Society.* In each of these, one end of the bridge is represented as standing in, and the other *below*, and not as in this case above the sound hole.

I did not much admire the tone of the instrument, it was harsh and unpleasant, but this might be owing in a great measure, to indifferent abilities of the performer, and to the badness of it's construction. When accompanied by the harp, it's tone was much mellowed, but still it had unconquerable harshness.

As to the antiquity of the Crwth, there is but little written evidence, to carry it farther back than the time of

* Vol. III. p. 33.

Leland, yet it has in general, been considered of such high antiquity, as to afford a probable conjecture that it might have been the prototype, of the whole fidicinal species of musical instruments. Butler, in his Hudibras, seems to hint at it's having been such :

His fiddle is your proper purchase,
Won in the service of the churches;
And by your doom must be allow'd
To be, or be no more a *Crowd*.*

Spenser seems also to have been acquainted with this instrument, when he says,

Hark, how the minstrils 'gin to shrill aloud,
Their merry music that resounds from far;
The pipe, the tabor, and the trembling *crowd*,
That well agree withouten breach or jar.

It does not appear to have been peculiar to Wales, for amongst the outside ornaments of the Abbey of Melrofs, in Scotland, which was built about the

* A performer on the Crwth was called a Crwther, hence no doubt originated Butler's name of Crowdero, in Hudibras.

time of Edward II. there is a figure of the Crwth, very little different from the one here described.

Besides this Crwth, the Welsh had formerly another, called *Crwth Tritbant*, or the three-stringed Crwth. The performers on this were held in very little estimation among the Bards, on account of it's not admitting equal skill and harmony, with either of the other two.

The Pibcorn, or hornpipe, was so called because both it's extremities were made of horn, the one to collect the wind blown into it, and the other to carry off the sounds as modulated by



Middle part



Reed



the performer. It has six holes in front for the fingers, and one behind for the thumb.

thumb. Its length is about nineteen inches, and in blowing it, the wind sounds the tongue of a reed concealed within. The tone that is produced is, considering the materials of which it is composed, said to be very tolerable, and in some measure to resemble that of an oboe. It is a rural pipe, and said to be almost peculiar to the Isle of Anglesea, where the shepherds play on it for amusement, whilst employed in tending their flocks. I do not think it is very commonly to be met with, as I never could obtain the sight of one, in that Island, though I made many enquiries after it.

The Honourable Daines Barrington conjectures, and with great appearance of probability, that this instrument originally gave name to that kind of country dance, called Horn-pipe. It was

not

not entirely peculiar to Wales, having been also formerly used in Cornwall.

The Welsh music is like the Scotch, remarkable for a wildness and irregularity, but it is inferior to that in sweetness of modulation. Much has been said of the very high antiquity of most of their present airs, but the regularity of their composition seems to point out to us that they have not been formed at any very remote period. The few ancient pieces that are yet extant, of which the dates have been ascertained with any degree of accuracy, fall very far short of the elegance and sweetness of these melodies. The most ancient are grave and solemn, and the plaintive, which were appropriated to elegies, and the celebration of the dead, are striking and pathetic, whilst the dances and jigs, are, on the contrary, extremely lively and cheerful.

In the airs that I have selected, I have changed the keys of some of them, and altered their basses, that they might be the better adapted to the harpsichord. Most of the harpers that I have met with in Wales, play in the major keys of G and D, which are by no means suited to plaintive subjects. Six of the airs are taken from Mr. Jones's excellent collection; the rest I wrote from the harp, when I was in that country. Some of them differ very materially from those inserted by that gentleman; but as the general cast of their melody appeared to me much more pleasing than those, I still thought it proper to retain them.

I cannot conclude this account more appropriately, than by inserting Mr. Jones's description of the music of his own country. "There is a certain style of melody peculiar to each musical country," says this gentleman, "which the people of that country are apt to prefer, to every other style. Some of

the dignified old Welsh tunes, convey to our ideas, the ancient manners and conviviality of our ancestors. There are others that recal back to our minds, certain incidents which happened in our youth, of love, rural sports, and other pastimes ; they likewise excite in us a longing desire of a repetition of those juvenile pleasures ; and perhaps it is on account of these effects they produce, that they are so well remembered, and continue to be sung with such delight by the natives. The attachment to national tunes, when once established, instead of offending by repetition, is always upon the increase. The music, as well as the poetry of Wales, derived it's peculiar and original character from the genius of the country ; they both sprang from the same source ; it's delightful vallies gave birth to their soft and tender measures, and it's wild mountainous scenes, to their bolder and more animated tones."

CHAP.

SELECT SPECIMENS of the WELSH MUSIC.

Martial and Magnificent.

Triban Gwyr Morgannwg. { The War Song of the
Man of Glamorgan.

Majestic

2

Dowch i'r Frwydr. Come to Battle.

Majestic.

The musical score consists of five staves of music. The first two staves are in common time (C) and treble clef (G). The third staff begins with common time (C) and treble clef (G), then changes to 6/8 time and bass clef (F) at the end. The fourth staff begins with 6/8 time and bass clef (F), then changes to common time (C) and bass clef (F) at the end. The fifth staff begins with common time (C) and bass clef (F). The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 1 through 10 are present above the staves. The word "Majestic." is written above the first two staves.

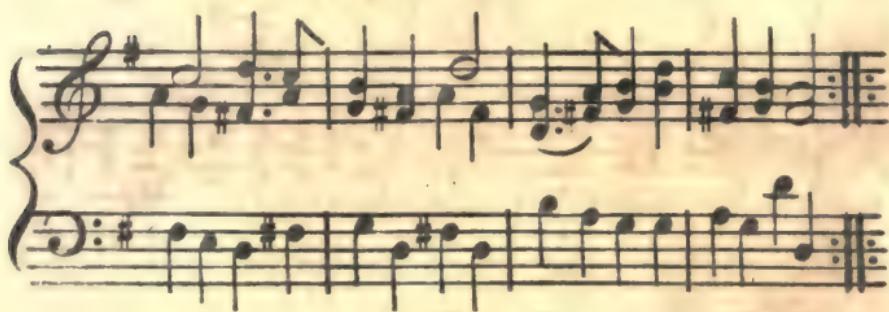
Plaintive & Pathetic

Cwynfan Brydain. The lamentation of Britain.

A Canticle

Very Slow

The musical score consists of three staves of music. The top staff is in common time (C) and treble clef (G). The middle staff is in common time (C) and bass clef (F). The bottom staff is in common time (C) and bass clef (F). The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 1 through 10 are present above the staves. The instruction "A Canticle" is written above the first staff, and "Very Slow" is written below the first staff.



Morfa Rhyddlan. The Marsh of Rhyddlan.

The Words are Versified from a Fragment Published in the Letters from Snowdon.

Elegiac

Fair on old Havren's bank, The modest Violet blooms,

And wide y scented Air, Its breath perfumes.

Bright shines the glorious Sun amidst the Heaven,

When from its cheering orb the Clouds are driven,

A form more beauteous still adorn'd the Flood,



2

For her in Arms oppo'd,
 Contending Warriors strove,
 'Twas beauty fir'd their Hearts,
 Gwendolen's love.

On Morfa Rhyddlan's plain the rivals stood,
 Till Morfa Rhyddlan's plain was drench'd in Blood,
 Not all proud Lloegyr's might could Cymry quell,
 Till foremost of his band young Griffith fell.

3

Gwendolen saw him fall,
 And "oh" the Maiden cried;
 "Could Maiden Prayers avail
 Thou hadst not died";

Distracted to the plain Gwendolen flew
 To bathe her Hero's Wounds, her last adieu!
 Fast o'er her Hero's Wounds, her Tears she shed,
 But Tears alas! were vain his life was shed.

4

Oh then for Griffith's Son,
 Ye Maids of Cymry mourn,
 For well the Virgin's Tear,
 Becomes his urn.

Nor you ye Youths, forbid your Tears to flow,
 For they shall best redress who feel for woe,
 Sweet sleeps the lovely Maid, wept by the brave
 For ah! she died for him she could not save.

Pastoral

Ar hyd y Nôs.

The livelong Night.

Fain woud some with vows persuademe, Ar hyd y

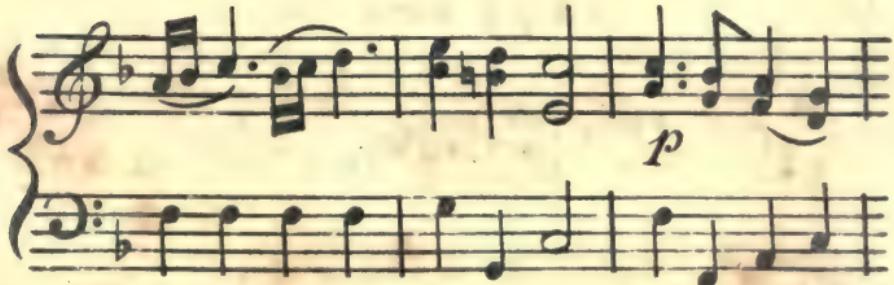
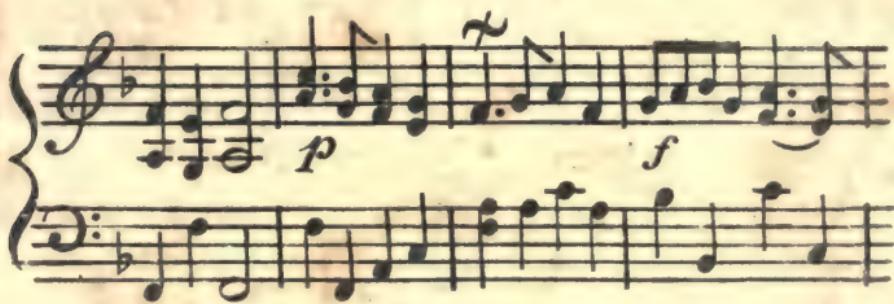
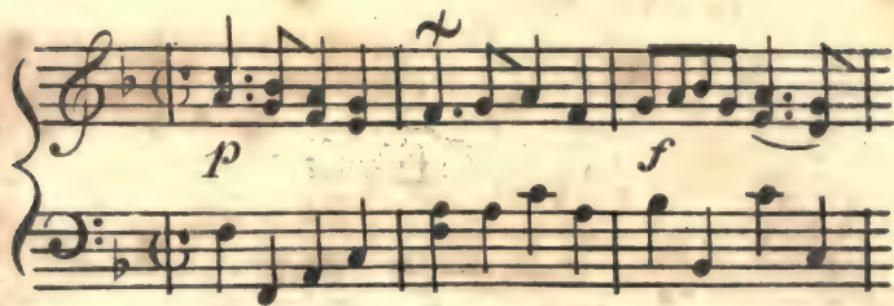
Maeftoso

Nôs That my faithful Swain has fled me,

Ar hyd y Nôs, But my beating Heart will falter,

Ere it thinks his Heart can alter, Ere it thinks his

Heart can alter Ar hyd y Nôs.



~~X~~
Y Gadly's.{ The Camp of the Palace, or
of Noble Race was Shenkin.

A handwritten musical score consisting of five systems of music. The score is for two voices, indicated by two sets of staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. The key signature is C major (one sharp). The time signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The tempo is marked 'All Moderato' in the first system. The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The score includes several fermatas and a repeat sign with a 'C' above it. The paper shows signs of age and wear.

Megen a Gollodd ei Gardas.

Margaret that lost her Garter.

A handwritten musical score for a single instrument, likely a fife or flute, consisting of six staves of music. The music is in common time (indicated by '3' over '4') and uses a treble clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score includes a tempo marking 'Allegro' and a dynamic instruction 'p' (piano) at the beginning of the first staff. The music features various note patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The handwriting is in black ink on aged, yellowish paper.

Difyrrwch Arglwyddes Owen's, Owen's Lady's
delight.

The musical score consists of five horizontal staves, each with a clef, key signature, and time signature. The top staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of common time (indicated by a '4'). The second staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of common time (indicated by a '4'). The third staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of common time (indicated by a '4'). The fourth staff uses a bass clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of common time (indicated by a '4'). The fifth staff uses a treble clef and has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of common time (indicated by a '4'). The music is labeled "Allegro" in the center of the first staff. The notation includes various note values (eighth, sixteenth, thirty-second), rests, and dynamic markings like 'tr' (trill).

Glân meddwdod mwyn. { Good humoured
and fairly tipsey. 11

Moderato

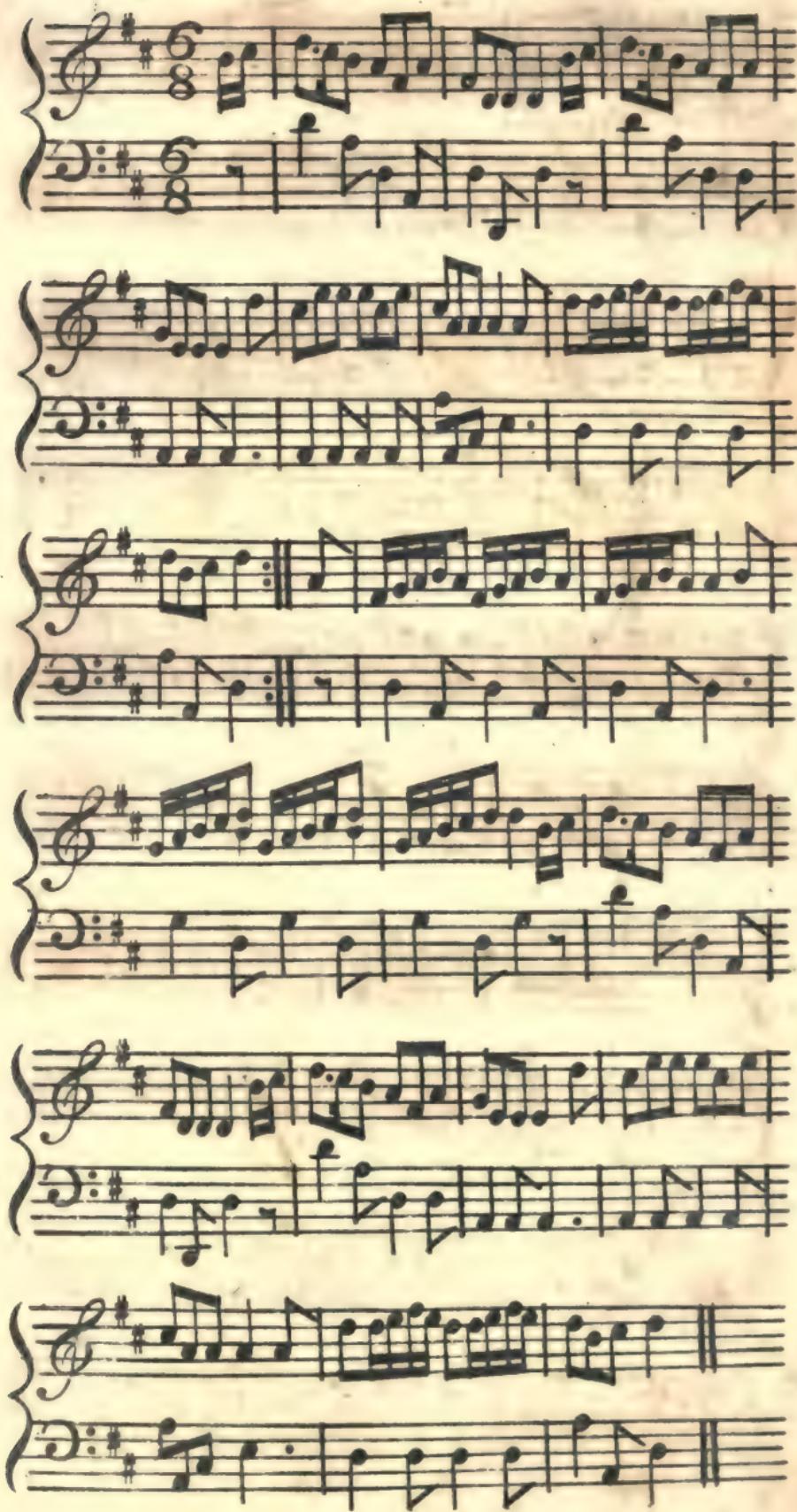
The musical score consists of five systems of music, each with two staves. The top staff uses a treble clef and common time (indicated by a 'C'). The bottom staff uses a bass clef and common time (indicated by a 'C'). The first system begins with a treble clef, common time, and a key signature of one sharp. The second system begins with a bass clef, common time, and a key signature of one sharp. The third system begins with a treble clef, common time, and a key signature of one sharp. The fourth system begins with a bass clef, common time, and a key signature of one sharp. The fifth system begins with a treble clef, common time, and a key signature of one sharp. The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are several grace notes indicated by 'tr' (trill) above the stems. The score is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

Llwyn On.

The Ash Grove.

A handwritten musical score for two voices, likely for soprano and alto, arranged in five systems. The music is in common time (indicated by a 'C') and consists of mostly eighth-note patterns. The key signature is one sharp (F# major or G minor). The vocal parts are separated by a brace. The first system includes a tempo marking 'Allegro' above the top staff. The score is written on five-line staves.

Tri chant o Bunnau. Three Hundred Pounds.



Merch Megan.

Margaret's Daughter.

A handwritten musical score for two voices, likely for a duet or a solo with accompaniment. The music is written in common time (indicated by a 'C') and consists of six staves of music. The top staff is for the Treble voice, indicated by a treble clef, and the bottom staff is for the Bass voice, indicated by a bass clef. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The notation includes various note values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The score is organized into three systems of two staves each. The first system starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The second system starts with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The third system starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The music is labeled 'Allegro' at the beginning of the first system. The handwriting is in black ink on aged paper.

Blodaûr Grûg. The Flowers of the Heath.

A handwritten musical score for 'Blodaûr Grûg.' featuring five systems of music. The score is written in two staves per system, with the top staff in treble clef and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature is F major (one sharp), and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is Allegro. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns, with some slurs and rests. The score is divided into systems by vertical bar lines and measures by short horizontal dashes.

~~X~~ **Suo gân.** The lullaby Song, which the ~~X~~

Welsh Nurses sing to compose their Children
to sleep.

Tender and Slow.

Hwi hwi hwi; hwi hwi

plentyn bach hwi hwi hwi

hwi hwi druan bach.

CHAP. XIV.

ACCOUNT OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE.—
THE FORCE OF THE LETTERS—LIST OF
PRIMITIVE WORDS—CHARACTER OF
THE LANGUAGE—OF THE POETRY—
THE CORNISH, ARMORIC, IRISH, AND
ERSE, ALL DIALECTS OF WELSH—THE
WELSH LANGUAGE DERIVED FROM THE
HEBREW—INSTANCE OF THEIR AGREE-
MENT—IT'S ANALOGY TO THE GREEK.
—SAXON ALPHABET THE PROPERTY OF
THE BRITONS—REV. WALTER DAVIES'S
REMARKS ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

IT is supposed, that there were anciently, in the Welsh or British language,*

* For much of the present essay I am indebted to the following works:—Commentarioli Britannia descriptionis fragmentum, Auctore Humfredo Llwyd; Powel's History of Wales; Edward Llwd's Notes, in Gibson's Edition of Camden's Britannica; Rowland's Mona Antiqua Restaurata; Stukeley's Medicinal History; the Preface to Owen's Translation of the Elegies of Llywarch Hen; Jones's Musical and Poetical Relics of the Welsh Bards; the Monthly Magazine; and the first and second volumes of the Cambrian Register.

no less than thirty-six letters; sixteen of which were radicals, that expressed the primary sounds; and the rest, modulations or dependents on them. For each of these, it is probable that there was formerly a simple appropriate character; but, since the invention of printing, and the introduction of Roman letters, it has been necessary, for want of a sufficient variety of cast for the purpose, to adopt two, and in one instance even three, of those letters, to express one sound or character, by which much of the simplicity and beauty of the proper alphabet has been lost.

The present printed books contain only twenty-seven characters: A, B, C, Ch, D, Dd, E, F, Ff, G, NG, H, I, L, LI, M, N, O, P, Ph, R, S, T, Th, U, W, and Y; having neither J, K, X, nor Z. C answers the purpose of K, when joined with W or Q; and when placed with

with S, of X. It is said that Z is used in the Armonican language, which is a dialect of this, but the Welsh disown it.

No letter has any variation of sound, except the accented vowels â, ê, ô, û, ŵ, which are lengthened, or otherwise, according to the power of the accent; and all are pronounced, as there are no mutes.

A has the same sound as the English open *a* in the word *bard*.

C is always hard, as *k*.

Ch, which is accounted but as one consonant, is a guttral, as *χ* in Greek, or *ח*, Cheth, in Hebrew.

Dd is an aspirated *d*, and has the sound of *tb* in the words *this*, *that*. Dda, good, is pronounced *Tha*.

F has the sound of the English *v*.

I is founded as in the Italian, or like our *ee* in *been*: thus *cil*, a retreat, is pronounced *keel*.

Ll is an aspirated *l*, and has much the sound of *tbl*. *Llangollen* is pronounced *Tblangotblen*,

R, as in the Greek language, is always aspirated at the beginning of a word.

U sounds like the *i* in *limb, him, &c.*

W is a vowel, and has the power of *oo* in *soon*.

Y is in some words pronounced like *i* in *tbird*; in others like *o* in *boney*; and again, in others as the *u* in *mud, must, &c.*

V is sometimes used instead of *f*. B and P, C and G, and U and Y, are used promiscuously, as were formerly V and M.

The following is a list of primitive words, which, as they very commonly occur in the names of places, &c. the tourist may find them of use.

Aber, a confluence; the fall of one river into another, or into the sea, as *Aberdovey*, the conflux of the Dovey.

Avon,

Avon, what flows; and from thence a stream or river.

Allt, a cliff; the steep of a hill.

Ar, upon; bordering or abutting upon.

Bach, and *Bychan*, little:—these are of the masculine gender, and *Vychan* and *Vechan* are fœminine.

Bôd, a dwelling, residence, or station.

Bryn, a hill.

Bwlch, a gap or pass between rocks.

Cader, a keep, fortress, or strong hold.

Caer, a fort, or fortified place, generally constructed with stones and mortar.

Castell, a castle.

Coed, a wood.

Carnedd, a heap of stones.

Cefen, a ridge; a high ground.

Clawdd, a dike, ditch, or trench; and sometimes a wall or fence.

* *Clogwyn*, a precipice.

Craig, a rock:—from this the English word *Crag* is derived.

Cwm, a great hollow or glen.

Dinas

Dinas, a fort, or fortified place, constructed in general with a rampart of loose stones and earth without any cement.

Dôl, a meadow or dale in the bend of a river.

x Drws, a door, pass, or opening.

Dû, black.

2? *Dyffryn*, a wide cultivated valley.

Ffynnon, a spring, well, or source.

Garth, a mountain that bends round, or + that incloses.

Glan, a bank or shore.

Glyn, a deep vale, through which a river runs:—from hence was derived our word *Glen*.

x Gwern, a watery meadow. *ALDAR-GROVE, 1821-*

Gwydd, a wood; woody or wild.

Gwyn, white.

Goch or *Coch*, red.

Llan, a smooth plot; a place of meeting; the church place or village; and figuratively the church.

a precinct, cloister, or Llech,
Inlosure, such as a church-yard.

x **Llech**, a flat stone or crag; a smooth cliff.
Llwyn, a grove or copse.
Llyn, a pool, pond, or mere.
Maen, a stone.
Maes, an open field. *Meadow.*
Mawr; great:—feminine *Vawr*.
Moel, fair; bald; a smooth mountain.
Morfa, a marsh.
Mynydd, a mountain.
Pant, a narrow hollow or ravine.
Pen, a head, top, or end.
Plâs, a hall or mansion.
Pont, a bridge.
Porth, a port.
x Rhiw, an ascent.
Rhos, a moist plain or meadow. *Open Waste wet by the sea.*
Rhyd, a ford.
Sarn, a causeway.
x Tal, the front, head, or end.
Traeth, a sand on the sea shore. *Strand*
Tref, a township.
Ty, a house.
Ynys, an island.

The

The Welsh language is possessed of numerous beauties. Its copiousness is very great; and it has no rival in the variety of its synonymous forms of expression, principally arising from the rich combinations of its verbs; for every simple verb has about twenty modifications, by means of qualifying prefixes; and in every form it may be conjugated, either by inflexions, like the Latin, or by auxiliaries, as in English. It rivals the Greek, in its aptitude to form the most beautiful derivatives, as well as in the elegance, facility, and expressiveness of an infinite variety of compounds. The author of Letters from Snowdon has justly remarked, that “it has the softness and harmony of the Italian, with the majesty and expression of the Greek.” Of these I will give two singular and striking instances, one of which is an *Englyn*, or epigram, on the Silkworm, composed entirely of vowels:

O'i

O'i wiw ây i weu â a'i weuau
 O'i âyau y weua ;
 E' weua ei âwe aia',
 A'i, weuau yw ieuau iâ.

“ I perish by my art; dig mine own grave;
 “ I spin my thread of life; my death I weave.”

The other, a distich on Thunder, the
 grandeur of which is scarcely to be sur-
 passed in any language.

Tân a dŵr yn ymwriaw,
 Yw'r taranau dreigiau draw.

“ The roaring thunder, dreadful in it's ire,
 “ It's water warring with aerial fire.”

The metre of the Welsh poetry is very
 artificial and alliterative, possessing such
 peculiar ingenuity in the selection and
 arrangement of words, as to produce a
 rhythmical concatenation of sounds in
 every verse. The old British language
 abounded with consonants, and was
 formed of monosyllables, which are
 incompatible with quantity; and the

Bards

Bards could reduce it to concord by no other means, than by placing at such intervals its harsher consonants, so intermixing them with vowels, and so adapting, repeating, and dividing the several sounds, as to produce an agreeable effect from their structure. Hence the laws of poetical composition in this language are so strict and rigorous, that, were it not for a particular aptitude that it has for that kind of alliterative melody, which is as essential as harmony in music, and which constitutes the great beauty of its poetry, the genius of the Bard must have been greatly cramped. To the ears of the natives, the Welsh metre is extremely pleasing, and does not subject the Bard to more restraint, than the different sorts of feet occasioned to the Greek and Roman poets. From the reign of Llewelyn to that of Elizabeth, the laws of alliteration

tion were prescribed, and observed with such scrupulous exactness, that a line not perfectly alliterative was condemned as much by the Welsh grammarians, as a false quantity was by the Greeks and Romans.

This language, the Cornish,* and Breton, or Armoric,† have an uniform agreement with one another, in gram-

* The natives of Cornwall, and part of Devonshire, began to lose their old Celtic dialect in the reign of Elizabeth, and I believe it is now entirely extinct.

+ Little Britain, now called Bretagne, in France, was called, in Cæsar's time, *Ar-y-môr-ucha'*, that is, "On the Upper Sea." It was afterwards inhabited by Britons; for, about the year 384, an hundred thousand Britons, with a numerous army of soldiers, went out of this island, under the command of Conan, Lord of Meriadoc, now Denbighland, to the assistance of Maximus the tyrant, against the Emperor Gratianus. They conquered the country of *Ar-y-môr-ucha'*; and for this service, Maximus granted to Conan and his followers, that country to dwell in; from whence, therefore, the Britons drove out all the former inhabitants, and formed there a kingdom, which continued in their posterity for many years, and where the Welsh language is spoken, even to this day. *Drych y Prif Oesoedd*, by Theophilus Evans.—*Caradoc's History of Wales*, by Wynne, p. 8; and *Lewis's History of Great Britain*, p. 143; quoted in *Jones's Welsh Bards*, p. 1.

*It was called
British Hyd-
Short of y Wal*

mar, structure, and nomenclature; but of these, the two last resemble each other the nearest: and the Irish, and Erse, or Gallic, are fundamentally the same with the Welsh, though differing much in the dialect and pronunciation. They all proceeded from one common head or fountain, the ancient Celtic, or British tongue.

There is so great an analogy between the primitive and derivative words of the Hebrew and Welsh, (allowing for the different modes of pronouncing in different languages) that it is plainly evident, that several of the British words owed their origin to that first and most ancient language of mankind; and the British, even of the present day, having more sounds in it agreeing with that primitive tongue, than all the rest put together, it certainly appears, in its first structure and origin, to have been one of the primary issues of it.

Besides the original Tongues, that succeeded the original language, are the Chaldaic, Gothic, and Celtic; which prevailed in 7 families of Noah's 3 Sons, Ham, Shem, and Japheth.

Besides this, there are many ancient British words, which have no resemblance to those of any other language in the world, except the Hebrew, so as to be in any possibility derived from them, as far as can be yet perceived; which seems to evince, that the British language, in it's radical parts at least, must be original; no footsteps of it any where appearing, but in those places where it is allowed that the ancient Celtæ for some time inhabited, or where their Gaulish and British offspring had sent their colonies. And if this language had come here, and had been derived from the language of any other part of the world, it's spring and origin might have been traced: but since this cannot be done among any other nation or people, but within it's own territories, it is a sure argument, that it wholly depends upon it's national origin and foundation; and

con-

consequently, that it is in substance the language of the first planters of the British Isle.

Now, if it only appear, that the same people continued in a constant uninterrupted succession, from the first planting of this nation to the present day, it follows, that the same language these people used, (being so good and expressive as this language is) must continue here as uninterrupted as the people whose language it was: for no reason can be given why, by what means, and in what periods of time, this same language, the same people continuing, should be exterminated, or utterly cease and perish.

It is true, that new people generally do introduce new languages, or very much corrupt and alter the old; but here we have no such thing. There are no records, no authentic marks of antiquity, to shew us, that amidst the vari-

ous

ous mutations of people, tongues, and nations in other parts of the world, the inhabitants of this part of Great Britain have been dispossessed, or so ousted of the premier possession of it, as that any other people or nation took up their place, and kept themselves possessed of it.

The Irish once indeed drove the inhabitants out of the Isle of Anglesea, the seat of learning; but they were themselves, very shortly afterwards, expelled, and their leader killed. The Romans, Saxons, Danes and Normans, sought to obtain the submission of the inhabitants, and had it; but they never succeeded in endeavouring to force their languages upon them.

Now these things being considered, it is absurd to imagine that the people should, without any appearance of reason for it, universally forsake and abandon their native language. Yet though

it seems to appear, beyond denial, that this ancient language has remained till the present time, it is not to be doubted, but that in the long space of some thousand years, it must have been much altered in it's mode, and propriety of speaking, according to the change of times, and the humours of the people; and so like a long continued river, take in many branches, and probably lose a few, in it's constant flux and current.

The Druids, Phoenicians, introduced many words. Thus the Romans added some words, and the Danes, and Saxons, also a few to the British Dictionary; while oblivion stole away many of the ancient sounds of it, when new ones were introduced. And in later times since the English hath so much incroached upon it, as to become the genteel and fashionable tongue, many more words have been thrown aside as obsolete and useless, which were before perhaps the flowers

flowers and ornaments of the language.

The Hebrew and Welsh languages, besides the agreement between single words, and the gutteral pronunciation of some of the syllables, are so nearly allied in their grammatical form, and construction, that it would be difficult to adduce even a single article, in the Hebrew Grammar, but the same is to be found in Welsh ; and there are many whole sentences to be found in both languages, which are exactly the same in the very words.

The following are instances of the agreement of single words.

<i>Hebrew.</i>	<i>Welsh.</i>	<i>Englisb.</i>
Denah	Dyna	This or that, or there it is.
Bareh	Bara	Meat or viuals.
Gad	Câd	An army.
Geven	Cefyn	A ridge or back.
Maguur	Magwyr	A habitation or walled dwel- ling.
X Cis	Cîf*	A chest.

* It appears very probable that the local word *cif*, used in many parts of Yorkshire for chest, may have had it's origin from this.

<i>Hebrew.</i>	<i>Welsh.</i>	<i>English.</i>
Me-ab	Mâb	Son, or from a father.
Mah?	Mae?	What? where? how?
Mar-	Maer-	A Lord.
Nase-	Nef-	Joyful.
Hanes	Hanes	To signify or account.
Jiffal	Ifel or Ifelu	To throw down.
Nadu	Nadu	They moan and lament.
Sethar	Sathru	To throw under feet.
Heber	Aber	A ford or passage.
Gadah	Gadaw	To pass by.
Mohal	Moel	Top of a hill.
Path	Peth	A part or portion.
Cir	Caer	A walled town.
Reith	Rhîth	Appearance.
X Sac	Sâch	A sack.
Bagad	Bagad	A great many.
Gavel	Gafael*	Tenure, or lands bounded.
Malas	Melys	Sweet, or to sweeten.

*Hinc, Mel.**Hougy.*

Instances of the agreement of whole sentences.

Hebrew. Byllang adonai-eth cal nêoth Jan-geob.

Welsh. By-llwng adon-ydh holl neuodh Jago.

English. The Lord has swallowed up—all the tabernacles of Jacob.

* From this and the British word *cenedyl*, which signifies a kindred, is derived *gavelkind*, a tenure, which continues to this day in Kent, by which the lands of the father, are at his death divided equally amongst his sons, or the land of a brother, if he has no issue of his own, equally among all the brethren.

1. *Heb.* Derech bethah iitsengad.
2. *Welsh.* Dyrac buth-hi ai-i-fengyd.
1. The road of her house he would tread.
2. The avenue of her dwelling he would go to tread.

1. *Heb.* Me huaze malec hacâvodh Jehovah tsebâoth hua malec hacâvodh. Selah!
2. *Welsh.* Py yw-o sy maeloc y-cavad I-a-ywyo savwyod yw-o maeloc y-cavad. Sela.

1. Who is the king of Glory? The Lord of hosts he is the king of Glory. Selah.
2. Who is he that is possessor of attainment? *I that am him of hosts, he is possessor of attainment. Behold!**

1. *Heb.* Mageni ngal elöiin.
2. *Welsh.* Meigen-i hwyl elyv.
1. My shield is from God.
2. My protection is from the intelligences.

Besides this singular conformity betwixt the Hebrew and Welsh languages, there is also a striking resemblance in sound and meaning, betwixt many words of this and the Greek language, which seems by no means unnatural,

* This a literal translation.

2? since the Welsh has been shewn to owe its origin to the Hebrew. The articles, pronouns, prepositions, affixes, &c. are in many instances the same in both. The verbs generally agree in the form of their inflexions, and often in the identity of sound. It is conjectured that Parkhurst's Lexicon, contains about seven thousand words, and with upwards of half that number there are words in the Welsh language, that have the same signification, agreeing in sound and form of composition.

<i>Greek.</i>	<i>Welsh.</i>	<i>English.</i>
Μη	Mo	Left; that not; not.
Ινα	Yna	That; to the end that.
Δευπω	Dyre	Hither.
Δη	De	Truly, in truth.
Εξω	Echw, uchw ..	Out; without.
Εμι	Imi	To me.
Νι, νι ..	Ni, nyni	We, us two.
Νειν, νει ..	Nyein, nyn ..	Of us two.
Kata ..	Kyd, Ryda ..	{ Against; along; by reason of, &c.

Japheth family first occupied Greece; ^{Ago} and used the Celtic, Gomerian or Japhetic language. But Goths got early into Thrace, & intermixed with Greeks; Goths used the Thracian language. Cadmus from Phoenicia, & Danus from Egypt brought to Greece the Chaldaic or Chalmete?

Arw.....Aru.....To plough.
 Δαχρυ.....Dagyr deigyr..A tear.
 Δαχρυω.....Dagru, deigro } To shed tears.
 and deigraw
 Δασκω.....Dyscu, from } To teach.
 Dysc learning
 Διδασκω.....Dyddscu.....To teach to instruct.
 Δυω.....Deuo.....To come.
 Ελεω.....Aelu, aelēu, } To pity.
 euliu
 Λαος.....Lios, Liaws... } A people, a number of
 men, a multitude.
 Μεργινω.....MerwinoTo cause to decay.
 Νύξ.....NôsNight.
 Οιω.....OioTo think, to bear in mind.
 Ράκα.....'Raca.....A rake.

The Welsh have at present no alphabet, except the same that we use, but there appears every proof that the one which has, in general, been attributed to the Saxons, and from them called the Saxon Alphabet, was in reality the property of the Britons, and was possessed by them many centuries before the Saxons came into this Island. It is extremely probable that when the Bri-

Doubtless Britons had letters from whom those invaders first had their letters. Afferus, and Scotus, who instructed Alfred, and the English, were both Welshmen, and it is very possible that at that time they claimed the Saxon alphabet, as their own.*

Dr. Johnson, who fully examined every record extant on the subject, can-
didly confesses, in his history of the English language, that when the Sax-
ons first entered Britain, about the year 450, they seemed "to have been a peo-
ple without learning, and very pro-
bably without an alphabet."

If they brought these letters with them from Saxony, or wherever they came from, there must have been some remains of them in inscriptions, and books left behind them in that country,

[•] Afferus menevensis de reb. gest. Ælfredi.

unless

unless they all came over to a man, and brought with them all their books, and tombstones too, for in all Germany there is no such character to be heard of.

X That they invented them after they came over into Britain, is utterly improbable, since there was the Roman character through all Britain, ready to their hands, and in common use, not to say any thing of the other, the British character. The Irish historians say, that they borrowed them from that country : it is probable that the Irish possessed them in common with the Britons, as the chief part of their language was the same, and as they have to this day retained both the character and language. But what need was there for the Saxons to go over to Ireland, to borrow what they had in their own Island, and neighbourhood ?

That

That the Britons used this alphabet, in ancient times, beyond all history, seems extremely probable, even from an expression of Cæsar, in his description of the Druids, “*Græcis literis utuntur*,”* for several of the Saxon characters, are the same as those in the old Greek alphabet.

Many of the ancient British manuscripts are written in this character, as part of *Liber Landavensis*, and several in North Wales.

X Mr. Edward Llwyd in one of his prefaces to *Archæologia*, has inserted three stanzas, of the ancient pictish poetry, which he found in the Highlands of Scotland, in this old character, or one very like it. They were written on vellum, and he supposed them above a thousand years old.

* Cæs. Lib. VI. S. 14.

Over

Over the South door of the church of Llangadwaladr, in Anglesea, is yet remaining a stone, having on it the following inscription, in which these letters seem to have been used :

CATAMANUS FLEX SAPIENTIOMUR
OPINATIPINNUR+ONNIUMREGUM

CATAMANUS REX SAPIENTISSMUS*
OPINATISSIMUS OMNIUM REGUM.

This Catamanus, or Cadvan, was the grandfather of King Cadwaladr, and died in the beginning of the seventh century : he is said to have been buried in the Isle of Bardsey, where many of the British Princes and Nobles were interred. But by this inscription it should seem that he was buried in this place, where his grandson afterwards built the church, and endowed it as one of the sanctuaries of the island,

* The letter *i* is omitted.

The British historians and poets, redound with the praises of one Pabo Post Prydain, that is, Pabo the support of Britain, who lived about the time that the Saxons came into Britain, and displayed much valour, in the contentions against the Picts and Scots. He was buried in the church-yard of Llanbabo, in Anglesea, which he had himself founded. About the time of Charles II. his grave-stone was discovered by the Sexton, as he was digging a grave, at the depth of six or seven feet in the earth, and it was then removed into the choir, where it has remained ever since. It has on it the figure of a man, in long robes, with a coronet on his head, and a sceptre in his hand, and on it's edge is a latin inscription in basso-relievo, in these characters, mixed with the Roman. And there are several other inscriptions in North Wales, in this ancient character.

Another

Another evidence that the Britons, were possessed of an alphabet before the arrival of the Saxons, is in the inscriptions on British coins, struck some centuries previous to that time. Dr. Stukeley, has favoured the world with twenty three plates of impressions, from the ancient coins of the Welsh Kings, and amongst them of a coin of *Bleiddyd Blatos*, or *Bladud*, King of Britain, about nine hundred years before Christ. This is now lodged in the Cottonian library; and was one that Camden, owned he could make nothing of. There are others of *Manogan*, who reigned about 130 years before the Christian æra; of *Cynvelyn* or *Cunobelus*, King of the *Cassivelauni*, during whose reign Christ was born; of *Meurig*, or *Marius Rex*, and his son *Coel Rex*, who flourished about the year 127.

In the reign of Henry VIII. there was found at Ambresbury, in Wiltshire, a table of metal, which appeared to be tin and lead mixed, inscribed with many letters, but in so strange a character that neither Sir Thomas Eliot, nor Mr. Lily, the Schoolmaster of St. Paul's, could read it, and it was therefore neglected. Had it been preserved it might probably have led to some discovery.

Before the arrival of the Romans, the Welsh, or British language, appears to have been the only one used throughout the whole of these Islands; but after the expulsion of the British, by the Saxons, it fled with them into the mountains. It seems to have continued in use in the Highlands of Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and Cornwall, for several centuries subsequent to this period, where defended by mountain barriers, its brave possessors could not be assailed without

without danger. In Cornwall it is now lost, but it continues yet to be spoken in North Wales, in its original purity. There have been many attempts to introduce the English language into general use, amongst the lower class of people in Wales, but without any great success. English charity schools have for many years been instituted, in almost every part of the principality, but these seem by no means to endanger the native language. The little that the children learn from instructors, who themselves know but little, is soon lost from the natural preference which they have to the indigenous property of their country, and their distaste for an exotic. To say that I found them in general entirely ignorant of the English language, would be false, for in those parts of Flintshire, Denbighshire, and Montgomeryshire, that are near the English counties,

counties, I found that they spoke it very fluently. It is in Anglesea, and the mountains of Caernarvonshire, and ~~* Merionethshire~~, that they are the most ignorant of it; and even here, in the great roads, I almost always had English answers to my questions, and even in more obscure situations by a little perseverance, or by the exhibition of money, I have obtained the answers I wanted. There is a natural reservedness about many of the Welsh, which sometimes makes even those who can speak the language pretty well, very shy in doing it, and this shyness is frequently interpreted by strangers into ignorance.

Mr. Walter Davies,* sensibly, but too warmly remarks, that some advocates for the abolition of the Welsh tongue, are

* See a statistical account of the parish of Llanymynech, in Montgomeryshire, by the Rev. Walter Davies, A. B. in the Cambrian Register, Vol. I. p. 280.

vain enough to prognosticate a near approaching day, when it will be numbered among the dead. They see some few families upon the borders, and about a dozen Innkeepers upon the post roads, who speak English only; but there are thousands and tens of thousands, in the wilds of Wales “ who have learned the “ language of their parents, and of “ their country, as naturally and as “ innocently as they sucked their mo-“ ther’s breasts, or breathed the com-“ mon air: they have neither opportu-“ nity nor inclination, to learn any other “ tongue.” This is the impregnable fortress of the Welsh language, where a rivetted cordial antipathy against the English tongue, caused by the cruelties of Edward the first, and of the Lancastrian family dwells as commander in

chief. “ Storm this garrison, and overturn Snowden from it’s base.”*

* I fear this is but too true, amongst the lower class of the Welsh people; but I am sorry to observe so sensible and intelligent a man as Mr. Davies, giving way to prejudices, which I should have hoped the doctrines of which he is himself a teacher, would have taught him to forget. Expressions like the following, though too low and illiberal to affect us, appear to me inexcusable from the pen of a clergyman. “ This mode of burlesquing the Welsh” (for the wrong pronunciation of some English words) “ originated “ in the ridicule with which the Saxon victors illiberally “ treated their conquered vassals; and which is still carried “ on, in spite of reason and liberality, by the folly and ig-“ norance of the descendants of our once insulting foes.”

The “ boorishness” of the English peasantry “ has no “ rival, and of their ignorance a clergyman of their own “ gives us SATISFACTION, who a few years ago, on coming to his parish, within twenty miles of the metropolis, “ could get no answer from several of his parishioners to “ a very plain question, viz. ‘ Who was Christ?’ Can we “ find such ignorance in Wales—the wilds of Ireland—or “ the Highlands of Scotland?”

ITINERARY.

AT Chester the traveller may find it worth his while to visit the Cathedral, the Castle, the Walls, and St. John's Church.

From Chester to Caernarvon, (by Flint.)
 $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

From Chester to Hawarden, —	$7\frac{3}{4}^*$
Chester.— $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, Bretton, (in Flintshire.)— $7\frac{1}{2}$, pass Hawarden Castle on the left.— $7\frac{3}{4}$, Hawarden.	
Flint, —	$7\frac{1}{4}$ 15
Hawarden.— $1\frac{1}{2}$, New Inn Bridge. (A little beyond are the ruins of Eu-loe Castle, in a copse about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile on the right.)— $2\frac{3}{4}$, Pentre Bridge.— $4\frac{1}{4}$, Northorp.— $7\frac{1}{4}$, Flint.	
At Flint is a castle, the County gaol, and a large smelting house.—Inn, the Royal Oak.	

* In the first column is the distance from one town to another; and in the second, the distance from the Town from whence the journey commences.

Holywell,—————— $5\frac{1}{2}$ | $20\frac{1}{2}$

Flint.— $1\frac{1}{2}$ Nant y Moch.—2
Bagillt.— $3\frac{3}{4}$ Wallwine turnpike.—
 $5\frac{1}{2}$ Holywell.

At Holywell, see Wenefrede's wall and mills, for different processes in the preparation of lead, calamine, copper, brass, and cotten. Head Inn, the *White Horse*,* a good, but extravagant house.

About $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the town, are the ruins of Basingweck Abbey.

St. Asaph, —————— 10 | $30\frac{1}{2}$

Holywell.—1, pass the lead mines.— $2\frac{1}{2}$, See on an eminence at a distance on the right a high round tower, somewhat like an old windmill, supposed to have been a Roman Pharos. About 7, or $7\frac{1}{2}$, descend into the vale of Clwyd.—Extensive prospect; Denbigh at a distance on the left, St. Asaph in front, and Rhyddlan Castle on the right.—10, St. Asaph.

At St. Asaph are the Cathedral—Bishop's palace—and Deanry.—From the top of the Cathedral is an extensive view along the vale.—Inn the *White Lion*.

* At the Inns printed in italics, Post Chaises, or Horses, may be had.

From St. Asaph, the tourist may visit Denbigh $5\frac{1}{2}$, or Rhyddlan 3.

Conwy. (Caernarvonshire.)— $18\frac{1}{2}$ 49

St. Asaph.—4, on right is Kinmael, the seat of the Rev. Edward Hughes.— $4\frac{3}{4}$, Llan St. Siôrs, or St. George's.— $6\frac{3}{4}$, Abergely.— $9\frac{1}{4}$, Llantulas.—18, *Ferry-House.**— $18\frac{1}{2}$ Conwy.

At Conwy are the Castle—Plas Mawr.—and poor remains of the Abbey.—The best Inn is the *Harp*.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. South of Conwy, is Caer Hên, the *Conovium* of the Romans.

The tourist may cross the ferry again, and visit $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. Bodscallon, and beyond it Gloddaeth, two elegant seats of Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart. and not far distant from these an old Tower, and the few remains of Diganwy Castle.

Bangor Ferry ————— $16\frac{1}{2}$ $65\frac{1}{2}$

Conwy.—5, the mountain Penmaen Mawr.—7, Lanfair Vechan.—9, Aber, (a mile and half from Aber is a celebrated waterfall.)—13, Llandygai.— $13\frac{1}{2}$, on the right is Penrhyn, the seat of Lord Penrhyn.—15, Bangor, (see here, the Cathedral.)— $16\frac{1}{2}$, Bangor Ferry.

* Post Chaifes are kept at this house.

The *Inn at Bangor Ferry* is a very good one.

Caernarvon, ——————

9 $74\frac{1}{2}$

At Caernarvon are the Castle, and Plâs Mawr.—From the rock behind the hotel, and from the Eagle Tower are extensive views.—Inn, the *Hotel*, the best in North Wales.

The distance from Caernarvon to the summit of Snowdon, is rather more than 12 miles.—See Vol. I. p. 216, where the track is described.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a mile south, is Llanpublic, and near it the remains of the Roman Segontium.

Caernarvon, to Llanberis ——————

10

Caernarvon.— $2\frac{1}{2}$, Pont Rûg.—4, on right Llanrûg.—6, end of lower Lake.—8, Dolbadarn Castle.—the romantic vale of Llanberis.—(near Dolbadarn is a cataract (*Caunant Mawr*.))—10, Llanberis.

On the edge of the upper lake is a small copper mine.

On the left of the village is the lofty mountain Glyder Vawr, and at the end of the vale a most romantic pass.

From Dolbadarn Castle, is an easy ascent to the summit of Snowdon, only $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant.

From Caernarvon, (in an excursion
round Anglesea.)

From Caernarvon to Gwyndy, - 20

Caernarvon.—5 cross the straits
of Menai, at Moel-y-don Ferry.— $5\frac{1}{4}$,
about a mile to the right is Plâs New-
ydd, the seat of the Earl of Uxbridge.
—8, Llandaniel.—11, Llanvihangel.
 $14\frac{1}{2}$, Llangefui.—20, Gwyndy.

Gwyndy is a good inn.

Holyhead, ————— $12\frac{1}{2}$ 32 $\frac{1}{2}$

Gwyndy. — $3\frac{3}{4}$, Bodedern. — 5,
Llanygenedl.— $8\frac{1}{4}$, enter Holyhead
island.—12, Holyhead.

Amlwch, about ————— 20 52 $\frac{1}{2}$

Ty Mawr, the inn at Amlwch is a
small house.—A mile from Amlwch
are the Pary's Copper-mines.—2 miles,
east is Llan Elian.

Beaumaris, about ————— 20 72 $\frac{1}{2}$

At Beaumaris is a castle.—Inn,
the Bull's Head,* a comfortable
house.

$\frac{3}{4}$ mile, from Beaumaris is Baron
Hill, the seat of Lord Bulkeley.

1 mile, is Friars, the seat of Sir
Robert Williams, Bart. and near it a

* I am not quite certain whether post-horses are kept at
this inn or not, though I am inclined to think they are.

barn, built from the ruins of Llanvaes Abbey.— $5\frac{1}{2}$, Penmon Priory; and just off the point, Priestholme Island, celebrated as being the resort of the species of bird called Puffin.

Caernarvon, —————— 20 $92\frac{1}{2}$

Cross the ferry to Aber, $3\frac{1}{2}$; and go by Bangor.

From Caernarvon, (in an excursion to Llanrwst.)

From Caernarvon to Capel Curig, about ——————

22

Caernarvon.— $5\frac{1}{2}$, Llanddiniolen. near this place is an ancient fort, called Dinas Dinorddwig.)—13, Lord Penrhyn's slate quarries.—Romantic vale of Nant Frangon.— $17\frac{1}{2}$, Llyn Ogwen.—22, Capel Curig.

Capel Curig stands in a fine mountainous vale, in which are two lakes. In 1798 Lord Penrhyn was erecting a good inn here.

Llanrwst, (by Dolwyddelan Castle,) ——————

17 39

Capel Curig.—5, Dolwyddelan Village.—6, Castle.—12, a cataract on the Llugwy, (*Rhaiadr y Wenol*).—13, Pont-y-pair.— $13\frac{1}{4}$, Bettws.—17, Llanrwst.

At

At Llanrwst, see the Church and Bridge.—Inn, the *Eagles*.

$\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the town is Gwydir, the ancient seat of the Wynne family.

3 miles north are the poor remains of Maenan Abbey.

Tan-y-bwlch Inn, —————— 20 59

Llanrwst.— $3\frac{3}{4}$, Bettws.—5, small cataract on the Conwy.—6, the fall of the Conwy, (*Rhaiadr y Graig Lwyd*.)—8, Penmachno.—18, Ffestiniog; and near it, the falls of the Cynfael.—19, the Vale of Ffestiniog.*—20, Tan-y-bwlch.

Caernarvon, —————— 20 79

Tan-y-bwlch.— $6\frac{1}{2}$, Pont-Aberglâf-llyn.—8, Beddgelert.—12, Llyn Cwellyn.— $13\frac{3}{4}$, Nant Mill.—15, Bettws.—20, Caernarvon.

From Caernarvon (round the remainder of North Wales) to Shrewsbury.

From Caernarvon to Beddgelert, 12

Caernarvon.— $\frac{1}{2}$, Segontium and Llanpublic.—4, Pont Curnant.—5,

* I have here called this the Vale of Ffestiniog, on account of it's being generally known by that name.—It's proper name is *Cwm Maentwrog*, or the Vale of Maentwrog.

Bettws.— $6\frac{1}{4}$, on the left, Plas y Nant, a house belonging to Sir Robert Williams, Bart; and on the right, a small cascade at Nant Mill.—7, Llyn Cwellyn.—See Snowdon on the left.—(The tourist who wishes to visit Llyn y Dywarchen, in which is the Floating Island, must turn to the right soon after he has passed Llyn Cwellyn.—12, Beddgelert.

At Beddgelert there is a small inn; but so wretchedly bad, as to afford scarcely any accommodations that are comfortable.

From Beddgelert, the distance is $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile to Pont-Aberglafllyn, (the Devil's Bridge.)—7, to Penmorfa;—and 10, to Criccieth, where are the remains of an old castle.

The traveller should by all means visit the vale near Beddgelert, called Gwynant. $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile on the left, is Dinas Emrys, the place from whence Merlin's prophecies were delivered.—2, Llyn-y-dinas.— $4\frac{1}{2}$, Llyn Gwynant; not far from which, is a lofty cataract, called Rhaidr y Cwm Dyli.

Snowdon may be ascended from Beddgelert; the distance to the summit is about 6 miles; but the track is much more rugged than that from Dolbadarn Castle, near Llanberis.

Tan-y-bwlch, (Merionethshire,) 8

20

Beddgelert.

Beddgelert.— $1\frac{1}{2}$, Pont-Aberglafllyn. Along the mountain road, which is excessively bad for carriages, are several extended prospects.—8 m. Tan-y-bwlch.

The inn is small, but good.—No post-horses to be had, either here or at Beddgelert, in 1798.*—The house stands on an eminence in the vale of Ffestiniog.

Not far from the inn, is Tan-y-bwlch Hall, the seat of — Oakley, Esq.

Ffestiniog is about 3 miles distant: near it are the falls of the Cynfael.—The road lays along the vale.

Harlech, —————— 10 30

Tan-y-bwlch.—1, Maentwrog.— $1\frac{1}{2}$, having passed a small bridge, at some distance on the left is a cataract, (*Rhaiadr dû*).—4, Llyn Tecwyn ucha.—5, Llantecwyn.— $5\frac{1}{2}$, Llyn Tecwyn ifa.—7, Pont y Crudd.—10, Harlech.

At Harlech are the remains of a castle.—Inn, very small, but clean;

* Though there are no post towns betwixt Caernarvon and Dolgelle, a distance of forty miles, yet the inn-keepers at those places will send out chaises and four, or four horses to any carriage, for the whole journey. The charge in 1798 was four guineas; and the expences; which, considering the road they had to go, do^u not seem too much.

kept by Watkin Amoyl.—There are only two beds, and those in the same room.

From Harlech, the tourist may probably, with the guide, make an excursion about 4 miles, to the romantic hollow Cwm Bychán; and from thence, round the still more romantic Bwlch Tythead, and Drws Ardudwy, in the whole about 18 miles.

Barmouth,

10 40

Harlech.— $1\frac{1}{2}$, Llanfair.— $2\frac{3}{4}$, Llanbedir.—(In a field on the right, near Llanbedir, are two tall upright stones, probably what the British, in former times, called Meini Gwyr, *the Stones of the Heroes.*)— $5\frac{3}{4}$, Llandwye. (From hence is a road on the left to Corsy-gedol; distant $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile, an ancient seat of the Vaughans, but now belonging to Sir Thomas Mostyn, Bart. — $8\frac{1}{4}$, Llan Aber.—10, Barmouth.

The *Corsy-gedol Arms* is an excellent inn.

There is a charming walk, along the beach on the bank of the river Maw, near Barmouth.

Dolgelle.

10 50

Barmouth.— $2\frac{1}{2}$, Glan-y-dwr.—8, Llanelltid.—10, Dolgelle.

The

The *Golden Lion*, at Dolgelle, is a tolerably good inn.

From Dolgelle, it is 1 mile to Hengwrt, a seat belonging to the Vaughans.— $1\frac{3}{4}$, to Y Vaner, or Kemmer Abbey.—6, to the cataraet at Dolymelynlyn.—9, to two others, Pistyll y Cain, and Rhaiadr y Mawddach.—The tourist, after having visited these, may return, along another road, by the village of Llanfachredd, and Nanney, another seat of the Vaughan family.—It will be necessary to take a guide.

From Dolgelle, guides may be had to ascend the mountain Cader Idris, whose summit is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant.

Machynlleth, —————— 15 65

Dolgelle.—5, Llyn Trigrainenyn.—7, a small public house, (the *Blue Lion*) from whence a guide may be had to the summit of Cader Idris.—4 miles distant, see at a distance Llyn Mwyngil.—14, cross the Dovey.—15, Machynlleth.

At Machynlleth is an old building, in which Owen Glendwr is said to have assembled his parliament.—*The Eagles* is the best inn.

Llanydloes, (Montgomeryshire,) 19 84

Machynlleth.—About half-way, and near $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile on the right, is a ca-

tara&t, called *Efrwd y Pennant*.—Pin-limmon visible at a distance on the right.—Cross the Severn;—and 19, enter Llanydloes.

The *New Inn*, at Llanydloes, a comfortable house.

Newtown, —————— 13 97

Llanydloes.— $6\frac{3}{4}$, Llandinam.—8, cross river to Caer Sws, an old Roman station about a mile distant;—and return 10, Pen y Strywad.—13, Newtown.

The *Bear* is the chief inn at Newtown.

Dolforwyn Castle is 4 miles distant; and $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile on the road to Builth is a cataract, but not worth seeing.

Montgomery, —————— 9 106

At Montgomery see the castle and church.—The *Dragon* is a good inn.

Welsh Pool, —————— 9 115

Montgomery.— $7\frac{1}{2}$ on the left is Powis Castle.—9, Welsh Pool.

The *Oak* is the head inn.

Oswestry, (Shropshire,) —————— 15 130

Welsh Pool.—6, pass the Breiddin Hills on the right.—9, cross, by a ferry, the river Vyrnwy.— $9\frac{1}{2}$, Llanymynech.—The Cross Keys, a small

inn

X inn in this place, is kept by Mr. Robert Baugh, a very ingenious man, the engraver of both the copies of Evans's map of North Wales.— $13\frac{1}{2}$, on the right, a house of industry.—15, Oswestry.

At Oswestry, see the church, St. Oswald's well, and the mount where the castle stood.—The head inn is the *Cross Keys*.

Wrexham, (Denbighshire,) — $15\frac{1}{2}$ $145\frac{1}{2}$

Oswestry.— $5\frac{1}{2}$, Chirk.—(See the Church; the aqueduct over the vale of Ceiriog; and 2 miles distant, Chirk Castle, the seat of Richard Middleton, Esq.)—View from thence into seventeen different counties.—8, New Bridge.—10, Ruabon, where, in 1798, there was a neat small inn building.—(From this place, the tourist may visit Wynnstay, the seat of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart; and near it, Nant y Bele, where there is a most elegant prospect on the Dee; $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, is Overton; and 9, Bangor.)— $13\frac{1}{2}$, on the right, is Erddig, the seat of Philip Yorke, Esq.—15, Wrexham.

See the church at Wrexham; and in it a most beautiful monument of Mrs. Mary Middleton.

There are two good inns, the first the *Eagles*, and the other the *Red Lion*.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Wrexham is Holt, where are the poor remains of a castle.

Mold, (Flintshire,) ————— 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 158

Wrexham — 4 $\frac{1}{4}$, Cedgidow Bridge.
 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Caergurle, near which are a few
 remains of it's Castle.—6, Hope.—
 12, Mold.

See the church and the Bâyley
 Hill, on which the Castle stood.—Inn,
 the Dragon, an extravagant house.

X 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ from Mold, is Rhual, the seat of
 the Griffith family, near which is
 Maes Garmon, where A. D. 448, the
 famous ALLELUIA victory was ob-
 tained by the Britons, over the Picts
 and Scots.

Holywell, ————— 9 167

Mold.—3 $\frac{1}{2}$, Northop.—6, Halkin.
 —9, Holywell.

St. Asaph, ————— 10 177

Denbigh, (Denbighshire) ————— 6 183

St. Asaph.—Along the vale of
 Clwyd.—6, Denbigh.

See the castle.—There are two inns
 at Denbigh, the Crown, and the
Black Bull; the former a most extra-
 vagant house.

Ruthin, ————— 8 191

Denbigh.—Still along the vale of
 Clwyd.—3, Llanrhaidr, (See the

church

church and well at this place.)—8
Ruthin.

At Ruthin are the remains of a castle. There is a *Large Inn* here; but the Cross Foxes, will be found the most comfortable for any persons, except those who come in carriages.

Llangollen, —————— 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 204 $\frac{1}{2}$

Ruthin.—10 $\frac{1}{2}$, enter the vale of Crucis.—11 $\frac{1}{2}$, pass the pillar of Elifeg, in a meadow on the left.—11 $\frac{3}{4}$, on left Valle Crucis Abbey.—See Castell Dinas Brân, on an eminence beyond.

The head inn at Llangollen is the *Hand*, where most persons complain of bad attendance—13 $\frac{1}{2}$, Llangollen.

Visit Valle Crucis Abbey.—the pillar of Elifeg.—And Castell Dinas Brân; the latter is about a mile from Llangollen.

Go round the vale of Llangollen, (about 10 miles).—Near Pont Cysyllte, 4 miles, see an immense aqueduct, for the Ellesmere canal, over the vale.

Corwen, Merionethshire, —————— 10 214 $\frac{1}{2}$

Llangollen.—3, on opposite bank of the Dee, see Llandyfilio Hall.—7, the place on which Owen Glyndwr's palace stood.—10, Corwen.

On the hill opposite to the town of Corwen, is a great circle of stones called Y Caer Wen.

The *New Inn*, is the only one in the place.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, from Corwen, on the road to Llanrwst, is Pont y Glyn, where there is a fine cascade.

Bala,—

13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 228

Corwen.—Enter the vale of Edeirneon.— $2\frac{1}{2}$, Cynwyd, not far from whence is a cataract, called Rhaiadr Cynwyd.— $5\frac{1}{2}$ Llandrillo.— $9\frac{1}{2}$, cross the Dee, and pass Llanderfel.—12, Lanvawr.— $13\frac{1}{2}$, Bala.

Near Bala are the lake.—Tomen y Bala, and another mount near the town, on which have been British forts.

The *Bull* is a very comfortable inn.

Go round the Lake, 12 miles, (not in carriages, the road will not admit it.)—Cross Pont Mwnwglylllyn, and proceed along the east side.—4 miles. Llangower.— $6\frac{1}{2}$, cross the Turch, and see the stones carried by the stream in a thunderstorm, in June, 1781.— $7\frac{1}{4}$. Llanwchlllyn.—(A mile beyond is an ancient British fort, called Castel Corndochon.)—8, on right Caergai.—11, Llan y cil.—12, Bala.

Llanrhaiadr, Montgomeryshire -	15	243
Bala. — $1\frac{1}{2}$, Pont Cynwyd. — 2, Rhiwedog.—7, Billter Gerrig.— $10\frac{1}{2}$. Langynog.—15, Llanrhaiadr.		
There is a small inn, (the Coach and Horses,) at Llanrhaiadr.		
X 4½ miles distant, is the celebrated cataraet Pistyll Rhaiadr.		

Shrewsbury,-	26	269
--------------	----	-----

Llanrhaiadr. — $3\frac{1}{2}$, Llangedwin
village, and on the left Llangedwin
Hall, a seat of Sir Watkin Williams
Wynne, Bart.—8, Llan y Blodwel.—
10, Llanymynech.—14, Knockin.—
18, Nesscliffe.—22, Montford Bridge.
—26, Shrewsbury.

At Shrewsbury, the tourist may
find amusement in visiting the
churches.—the quarry.—the free
school.—and the castle.

ITINERARY

FROM SHREWSBURY ROUND NORTH WALES.

FROM Shrewsbury to Llanriadr,*	26
Bala,	15 41
Corwen,	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 54 $\frac{1}{2}$
Llangollen,	10 64 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ruthin,	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 78
Denbigh,	8 86
St. Asaph,	6 92
Holywell,	10 102
Mold,	9 111
Wrexham,	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 123 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oswestry,	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ 139
Welsh Pool,	15 154
Montgomery,	9 163
Newtown,	9 172

* For the particulars of the road betwixt the towns, the tourist may refer to the places in the Itinerary the other way.

Llan-

Llanydloes,	13	185
Machynlleth,	19	204
Dolgelle,	15	219
Barmouth,	10	229
Harlech,	10	239
Tan-y-bwlch,	10	249
Beddgelert,	8	257
Caernarvon,	12	269
Caernarvon to Llanberis,		10

From Caernarvon, (in an Excursion round Anglesea.)		
To Gwyndy,		20
Holyhead,	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$
Amlwch,	20	52 $\frac{1}{2}$
Beaumaris,	20	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Caernarvon,	20	92 $\frac{1}{2}$

From Caernarvon, (in an excursion to Llanrwst.)		
To Capel Curig,		22
Llanrwst, (by Dolwyddelan Castle,)	17	39

Tan-

Tan-y-bwlch Inn,.....	20	59
Caernarvon,.....	20	79

From Caernarvon to Chester.

To Bangor Ferry,.....		9
Conwy,.....	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$
St. Asaph,.....	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	44
Holywell,.....	10	54
Flint,.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hawarden,.....	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	66 $\frac{3}{4}$
Chester,.....	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$

APPENDIX.

ACCOUNT

OF A

JOURNEY INTO WALES;

In Two Letters,

TO MR. BOWER.

BY GEORGE LORD LYTTLETON.

Published with his other Miscellaneous Works, in one Volume
Quarto, by G. E. Ayscough, Esq.

LETTER I.

Brynker, in Carnarvonshire, July 6, 1756.

I write this from the foot of Snowdon, which I proposed to ascend this afternoon; but alas! the top of it, and all the fine prospects which I hoped to see from thence, are covered with rain; I therefore sit down to write you an account of my travels thus far, as I promised when I left you, and to satisfy your desire of seeing North Wales in description at least, since you are not at leisure to accompany me thither.

I set

I set out from Bewdley, with Mr. D—, and Mr. P—, on Tuesday last. In our way thence to Ludlow, we saw Sir E. B—'s, in a charming situation for the beauty of the prospects, but too much exposed, and in a dirty country. The house is spoiled by too fine a stair-case and hall, to which the other rooms are by no means proportioned. Some of them are wainscotted and inlaid very finely. There is a park, which would be more beautiful, if the master of it had a little more taste. I hear his son has a good one; but the Baronet himself hath not much more than his ancestor, who was killed by E. Douglas, at the battle of Shrewsbury. From this place we proceeded to the Clee Hill, a mountain you have often seen from my park; it affords a lovely prospect on every side, but it is more difficult to pass over than any in Wales, that I have yet seen; being covered all over with loose stones, or rather with pieces of rocks. However we passed it without any hurt to ourselves or horses.

Ludlow is a fine, handsome town, and has an old Castle, now in a neglected and ruinous state; but which, by its remains, appears to have been once a very strong fortress, and an habitation, very suitable to the power and dignity of the Lord President of Wales, who resided there. Not far from this town is Okely Park,

Park, belonging to Lord Powis, and part of that forest which Milton, in his Masque, supposes to have been inhabited by Comus and his rout. The God is now vanquished ; but, at the revolution of every seven years, his rout does not fail to keep up orgies there, and in the neighbouring town ; as Lord Powis knows to his cost, for he has spent twenty or thirty thousand pounds, in entertaining them at these seasons ; which is the reason that he has no house at this place for him to live in.

He talks of building one in the Park, and the situation deserves it ; for there are many scenes, which not only Comus, but the Lady of Milton's Masque, would have taken delight in, if they had received the improvements they are capable of, from a man of good taste ; but they are as yet very rude and neglected. In our way from hence to Montgomery, we passed through a country very romantic and pleasant, in many spots ; in which we saw farms so well situated, that they appeared to us more delightful situations than Clermont or Burleigh. At last we came by a gentleman's house, on the side of a hill opening to a sweet valley ; which seemed to be built in a taste much superior to that of a mere country Esquire. We therefore stopt, and desired to see it, which curiosity was well paid for : we

found

found it the neatest and best house, of a moderate size, that ever we saw. The master it seems, was bred to the law, but quitted the profession about fifteen years ago, and retired into the country, upon an estate of £500 per annum, with a wife and four children ; notwithstanding which encumberances, he found means to fit up the house in the manner we saw it, with remarkable elegance, and to plant all the hill about him with groves and clumps of trees, that together with an admirable prospect seen from it, render it a place which a monarch might envy. But, to let you see how vulgar minds value such improvements, I must tell you an answer made by our guide, who was a servant to Lord Powis's steward, and spoke, I presume, the sense of his master : upon our expressing some wonder that this gentleman had been able to do so much with so small a fortune ; "I do not, said he, know how it is, but he is always doing some nonsense or other." I apprehend, most of my neighbours would give the same account of my improvements at Hagley.

Montgomery town is no better than a village ; and all that remains of an old Castle there, is about a third part of a ruinous tower ; but nothing can be finer than the situation of it and the prospect. It must have

have been exceeding strong in ancient times, able to resist all the forces of the Welsh: to bridle them, it was built in the reign of William Rufus; three sides of it are a precipice quite inaccessible, guarded by a deep and broad ditch. I was sorry that more of so noble a Castle did not remain, but glad to think, that, by our incorporating union with the Welsh, this and many others, which have been erected to secure the neighbouring counties of England, against their incursions, or to maintain our sovereignty over that fierce and warlike people, are now become useless.

From hence we travelled, with infinite pleasure (through the most charming country my eyes ever beheld, or my imagination can paint) to Powis Castle, part of which was burnt down about thirty years ago; but there are still remains of a great house, situated so finely, and so nobly, that, were I in the place of Lord Powis, I should forsake Okely Park, with all it's beauties, and fix my seat as near there, as the most eligible in every respect. About £3000 laid out upon it, would make it the most august place in the kingdom. It stands upon the side of a very high hill; below lies a vale of incomparable beauty, with the Severn winding through it, the town of Welsh

X

Pool, terminated with high mountains. The opposite side is beautifully cultivated half way up, and green to the top except in one or two hills, whose summits are rocky, and of grotesque shapes, that give variety and spirit to the prospect. Above the Castle is a long ridge of hills finely shaded, part of which is in the Park, and still higher is a terrace, up to which you are led through very fine lawns, from whence you have a view that exceeds all description. The county of Montgomery, which lies all within this view, is to my eyes the most beautiful in South Britain; and though I have not been in Scotland, I cannot believe I shall find any place there superior, or equal, to it; because the Highlands are all uncultivated, and the lowlands want wood; whereas this country is admirably shaded with hedge-rows. It has a lovely mixture of cornfields and meadows, though more of the latter. The vales and bottoms are large, and the mountains, that rise like a rampart all around, add a magnificence and grandeur to the scene, without giving you any horror or dreadful ideas, because at Powis Castle they appear at such a distance as not to destroy the beauty and softness of the country between them. There are indeed some high hills within that inclosure, but being woody

and green, they make a more pleasing variety, and take off nothing from the prospect. The Castle has an old fashioned garden just under it, which a few alterations might make very pretty ; for there is a command of water and wood in it, which may be so managed as to produce all the beauties that art can add, to what liberal nature has so lavishly done for this place. We went from thence to see Pestill * Rhaider, a famous cascade ; but it did not quite answer my expectations, for though the fall is so high, the stream is but narrow, and it wants the complement of wood, the water falling like a spout on an even descent, down the middle of a wide naked rock, without any breaks to scatter the water. Upon the whole, it gave me but little pleasure.

After having seen the Velino, we lay that night at the house of a gentleman who had the care of Lord Powis's lead mines ; it stands in a valley, which seems the abode of quiet and security, surrounded with very high mountains on all sides ; but in itself airy, soft and agreeable.† If a man was disposed to forget the world, and be forgotten by it, he could not find a more proper place. In some of those mountains are veins of lead

* Pistyll Rhaiadr. † Probably the vale of Llangunog.
ore,

ore, which have been so rich as to produce in time past £20,000 *per annum*, to the old Duke of Powis, but they are not near so valuable now. Perhaps, *holy father*, you will object, that the idea of wealth dug up in this place does not consist with that of retirement. I agree it does not ; but, all the wealth being hid underground, the eye sees nothing there but peace and tranquility.

The next morning we ascended the mountain of Berwin,* one of the highest in Wales ; and when we came to the top of it, a prospect opened to us, which struck the mind with awful astonishment. Nature is in all her majesty there ; but it is the majesty of a tyrant frowning over the ruins and desolation of a country. The enormous mountains, or rather rocks, of Merionethshire inclosed us all around. There is not upon these mountains a tree, a shrub, or a blade of grass ; nor did we see any marks of habitations or culture in the whole space. Between them is a solitude fit for despair to inhabit ; whereas all we had seen before in Wales seemed formed to inspire the meditations of love. We were some hours in crossing this desert, and then had the view of a fine woody vale, but narrow and deep, through which a rivulet ran as clear

* Cader Ferwyn.

and

and rapid as your Scotch burns, winding in very agreeable forms, with a very pretty cascade. On the edge of this valley we travelled on foot, for the steepness of the road would not allow us to ride without some danger; and in about half an hour we came to a more open country, though still inclosed with hills, in which we saw the town of Bala, with it's beautiful lake. The town is small and ill-built; but the lake is a fine object; it is about three miles in length, and one in breadth; the water of it is clear, and of a bright silver colour. The river Dee runs through very rich meadows; at the other end are towering high mountains; on the sides are grassy hills, but not so well wooded as I could wish them to be: there is also a bridge of stone built over the river, and a gentleman's house, which embellishes the prospect. But what Bala is the most famous for, is the beauty of it's women, and indeed I there saw some of the prettiest girls I ever beheld. The lake produces very fine trout, and a fish called *whiting*,* peculiar to itself, and of so delicate a taste, that I believe you would prefer the flavour of it to the lips of the fair maids at Bala.

After we left the banks of the lake, where we had an agreeable day, we got again into

* A species of Alpine fish, the *Salmo Lavaratus* of Linnaeus, called by the Welsh, Gwyniad.

the desert; but less horrid than I have already described, the vale being more fertile, and feeding some cattle. Nothing remarkable occurred in our ride, until we came to Festiniog a village in Merionethshire, the vale before which is the most perfectly beautiful of ~~XX~~^X all we had seen. From the height of this village you have a view of the sea. The hills are green and well shaded with wood. There is a lovely rivulet, which winds through the bottom; on each side are meadows, and above are corn fields, along the sides of the hills; at each end are high mountains, which seem placed there to guard this charming retreat against any invaders. With the woman one loves, with the friend of one's heart, and a good study of books, one might pass an age there, and think it a day. If you have a mind to live long, and renew your youth, come with Mrs. Bower, and settle at Festiniog. Not long ago there died in that neighbourhood an honest Welsh Farmer, who was 105 years of age: by his first wife he had 30 children, 10 by his second, 4 by his third, and 7 by two concubines; his youngest son was 81 years younger than his eldest, and 800 persons, descended from his body, attended his funeral. When we had skirted this happy vale an hour or two, we came to a narrow branch of the sea which is dry at low water. As we

we passed over the sands, we were surprized to see that all the cattle preferred that barren place to the meadows. The guide said, it was to avoid a fly, which in the heat of the day came out of the woods, and infested them in the valleys. The view of the said sands are terrible, as they are hemmed in on each side with very high hills, but broken into a thousand irregular shapes. At one end is the ocean, at the other the formidable mountains of Snowdon, black and naked rocks, which seemed to be piled one above the other. The summits of some of them are covered with clouds, and cannot be ascended. They do altogether strongly excite the idea of Burnet, of their being the fragment of a demolished world. The rain which was falling when I began to write this letter did not last long; it cleared up after dinner, and gave us a fine evening, which employed us in riding along the sea coast, which is here very cold.

The grandeur of the ocean, corresponding with that of the mountain, formed a majestic and solemn scene; ideas of immensity swelled and exalted our minds at the sight; all lesser objects appeared mean and trifling, so that we could hardly do justice to the ruins of an old castle*, situated upon the top of a conical hill, the foot of which is washed by the sea,

* Criccieth.

and which has every feature that can give a romantic appearance.

This morning (July 7,) being fair, we ventured to climb up to the top of a mountain, not indeed so high as Snowdon, which is here called Moel Guidon*, i. e. the nest of the eagle; but one degree lower than that called Moel Happock,† the nest of the hawk; from whence we saw a Phænomenon, new to our eyes, but common in Wales; on one side was midnight, on the other bright day; the whole extent of the mountain of Snowdon, on our left hand, was wrapped in clouds, from top to bottom; but on the right the sun shone most gloriously over the sea-coast of Carnarvon. The hill we stood upon was perfectly clear, the way we came up a pretty easy ascent; but before us was a precipice of many hundred yards, and below, a vale, which, though not cultivated, has much savage beauty; the sides were steep, and fringed with low wood.

There were two little lakes,‡ or rather large pools, that stood in the bottom, from which issued a rivulet, that serpentined in view for

* *Moel Gwdion* :—this does not mean the “nest of eagle.” *Moel* signifies a smooth hill; and *Gwdion* is said to be the name of a famous astronomer. † *Moel Hebog*, *the hill of the hawk.*

‡ Llyn y Dinas, and Llyn Gwynant, or Llyn Cwellyn and Llyn y Cader.

two or three miles, and was a pleasing relief to the eyes.

But the mountains of Snowdon, covered with darkness and thick clouds, called to my memory the fall of Mount Sinai, with the laws delivered from it, and filled my mind with religious awe.

This afternoon we propose going to Carnarvon, and you may expect a continuation of my travels from Shrewsbury, which is our last stage. Through the whole round of them, we heartily wished for you, and your friend Browne, and your friend Mrs. S—, who is a passionate admirer of prospects; and that you could have borrowed the chariot of some gracious fairy, or courteous enchanter, and flown through the air with us. You know I always admired Mrs. S— for the greatness of her taste, and sublime love of nature, as well as for all her other perfections, Adieu, my dear Bower. I am perfectly well, eat like a horse, and sleep like a monk; so that I may, by this ramble, preserve a stock of health, that may last all winter, and carry me through my parliamentary campaign. If you write to the Madona,* do not fail to assure her of my truest devotion. The most zealous Welsh catholic does not honour St. Winni-

* A lady to whom her friends gave that appellation. *Lord Lyttleton,*

fred more than I do her. I wish you may not be tired with my travels; but you know I am performing my promise.

I remain your's, &c.

LYTTELTON.

LETTER II.

Shrewsbury, July 14, 1756.

DEAR BOWER,

MY last letter ended in setting out for Carnarvon, where I arrived that afternoon. I had a very fine view of the sea; and one of the finest towns I had seen in England or Wales; the old walls of which, with their towers and bulwarks, are almost entire; they are high, and strongly built. The towers are round, and rather more of the Roman than the Gothic form of architecture. At one end they join to the wall of the castle, which is a vast and noble building, of which the outside is likewise well preserved, but the inside is demolished. The people here shew the remains of a chamber, where King Edward the Second was born, and received the submission of all the nobility in Wales in his cradle. The castle itself was built by his father, and is indeed a noble work.

A

As we rode from Carnarvon, the country about was softened into a scene of the most pleasing kind; and was rendered more so, by the contrast with that from which we came. We travelled along the shore of Menai, an arm of the sea, as broad as the Thames, over against Lord Duncannon's. Our road led us over fine shady lawns, perfumed so with honeysuckles, that they were a *paradisetto*. Over gentle hills, from whence we had a lovely view of the Menai, and the Isle of Anglesea, which lies on the opposite side of it; and then lost them again in agreeable valleys, like those of Reading, or the Hertfordshire vales. We enjoyed these scenes for some miles, till we came into a ferry, by which we passed into Anglesey, and landed at the seat of Sir Nicholas Bayley,* which is the pleasantest spot in the island. He has gathered an old house with good judgment and taste. The view from it is charming; he sees the sweet country, through which we had travelled, from Carnarvon to Snowdon above it, which ennobles the prospect; the Menai winds, in a most beautiful manner, just under his windows; his woods shade the banks on each side of it, quite down to the water; above which, intermixed with them, are ever-green lawns, which, if helped with a very little art, would,

* Plas Newydd.

together

together with his wood, make a garden or park of the most perfect beauty; but all is yet in a rude and neglected state. From thence we went to Baron-hill, the seat of Lord Bulkeley, above the town of Beaumaris, in the same island; it has a view of the sea, and coast of Carnarvon; which is indeed very fine, but I think inferior to that of Lord Edgecombe's, with which I have heard it compared. The house is a bad one; the gardens are made in a very fine taste; but, upon the whole, I like it much less than Sir N. Bayley's, though the reputation of the former is greater in Wales.

All the rest of the Isle of Anglesea is a naked and unpleasant country, without a tree or hedge to be seen in it, uncultivated still, from the obstinacy of the people, in adhering to the ignorance of their forefathers; so that I am told, that it does not produce the tenth part of what the land is capable of, if improved by the agriculture of England. From Beaumaris we rode over the Sands, at low water, to Penman Mawr, a high and rocky mountain, the passage over which must have been very frightful, before they built a wall along the edge of the road, which secures you from the danger of falling down the precipice that is below it into the sea; but with this guard it is very agreeable, the prospect of the sea and the country being very fine.

I ne-

I never saw any thing that struck me more than the first view of Conway Castle, to which we soon came, after passing this mountain. It was built by Edward the First, in much the same stile with that of Carnarvon; but stronger and more regular. The situation is noble, and it stands upon a rock of considerable height; instead of a ditch, three sides of it are defended by an arm of the sea, and four turrets, that rise above the towers, besides two others at one end, standing below the others, about the middle of the rock, that overcharges the sea. The walls between are battlements, and look very strong; they are, in some places, fourteen or fifteen feet thick, in none less than twelve. The whole together hath the grandest appearance of any building I ever beheld, especially as the walls of the town, which are built like those of Carnarvon, but with bolder and handsomer towers, appear right in one view to the eye with the castle, when you first approach it. All the outside remains, except one tower, as in the time of Edward the First; and that was not demolished, either with battering engines, or with cannons, but by the people of the place taking stones from the foundation, for their own use, whenever they pleased; the consequence of which was, the greatest part of the tower fell into the sea; but

the

the upper part more surprisingly continues still firm, in the form of an arch; and Lord Hertford, the present proprietor, hath forbid any dilapidation for the future. We were told, his grandfather would have lived in this castle, could he have purchased any lands in the country about; but, finding none to be sold, he dropped the design.

I wish he had pursued it, for then we might have seen the inside entire; a sight which would have given me a great deal of pleasure. But now the floors, ceilings, and roofs, are all taken away, so that we can hardly guess at its ancient magnificence. The hall must have been a noble room; it is 100 feet long, 30 wide, and 30 high; the roof was supported by very beautiful arches, which still remain. There are two chimneys in it, and it was well lighted. The stone-work of the windows is exceeding handsome. Had our friend Millar (the builder of Hagley House) been with us, he would have fallen down and adored the architect. The eight towers seem to have contained three very good bed-chambers each, placed one above another, besides some upper rooms. The chambers are 18 feet diameter, except one, called the King's chamber, which has a bow window, gained out of the thickness of the wall; and the room is by that means

means extended above 30 feet; over the arch of that window are the arms of Edward the First.

This, and all the other chambers, appear to the eye 12 or 13 feet high; but I am promised an accurate plan of the whole by one of the country. It certainly merits very particular examination; but I should have been more curious about it, had it been built in *Henry the Second's time*. From Conway Castle, we travelled half a day's journey, through a very romantic country, to Rudland, or rather Landcastle,* the remains of which are less perfect than Carnarvon or Conway; nor was it ever equal to them, either in extent or beauty, which I am sorry for, as it was built by *Henry the Second*.† Not far from hence, at a place called Bodruddan, we passed a rainy day, in a very comfortable manner, with an old acquaintance of mine, who is the lady of the castle, and hath forbid all depredations, which the people of the neighbourhood used to make, by taking it down, to build and repair their houses and pigsties, which would have

* How the noble author fell into this mistake I know not; Ryddlan signifies *the red bank*.

† It was repaired and fortified by Henry II. in the year 1157; but it appears to have been founded upwards of a century before that time. See Vol. I,

or *Ford Bar*
Rhyd Hau

demolished it like the tower of Conway. The next morning we went to the tops of the hill, from whence we had a full view of the vale of Clwydd, from one end to the other, which is equalled by none in England, for fertility & beauty. There is neither mountain or rock to be seen in any part of it. After you turn your back upon Rudland, the hills on one side of it rise very gradually by gentle ascents; most of them are cultivated quite to their summits; others half way up; and, when the tops are not enclosed, they are a fine grassy down, like Clent-hill, and shaded and enlivened with wood, like the slopes in my park; but yet I prefer the scenes in Montgomeryshire to this lively vale: there is a great beauty in this, but there is no majesty; whereas there, as in the mind of our friend the *Madona*, the soft and the agreeable is mixed with the noble, the great, and the sublime. About the middle of this vale, upon the brow of a hill, stands Denbigh Castle, a very fine ruin; it encloses as much ground as Conway or Carnarvon, but hath not so much building. The towers of it are standing at a very considerable distance from one another, being fewer in number; but they are in the same stile of architecture, having been built in the reign of the same king, who, by these strong fortresses, secured

secured to himself and his posterity the dominion of North Wales. The hall is still pretty entire, and rivals that of Conway, except that the roof doth not appear to have been arched.

The towers are all in a ruinous state; I think it a pity and shame to the owner, that more care is not taken, to preserve such respectable remains of antiquity. When we left the vale of Clwydd, we went into a barren and mountainous country, which continued from Rythin as far as Wrexham.

The church of the latter is called one of the wonders of Wales; it does indeed equal, if not exceed, any in England. I have not described to you the cathedral of Bangor, or St. Asaph; the first I did not see, and I was told it was not worth seeing; the latter hath nothing in it to deserve description: nevertheless, I should be glad to see the Dean of E—— well seated in either of them, or rather at St. Asaph. From Wrexham we went to Wynstay, the seat of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Part of the house is old; but he had begun building a new one before his death, in a very good taste. One wing is finished, and that alone makes a very agreeable house. The view from it is the most cheerful I ever beheld; it stands in the middle of a very pretty park, and

E e 2 looks

looks over that to a most delightful country; but, if the park was extended a little farther, it would take in a hill, with a view of a valley, most beautifully wooded; and the river Dee winding in so romantic and charming a manner, that I think it exceeds that of Ffestiniog, or any confined prospect I ever beheld. Among other objects that embellish the scene, there is a fine bridge of stone. Tell Mrs. C—— S——, I would have her leave Clermont, and the banks of the Thames, and build a house in this lovely spot. I will visit her every year; she will not be at any expence in making a garden, for nature hath made one to her hands, infinitely better than that of S——. Upon one of the neighbouring hills, which hath the same prospect as this, one Mr. Yorke has a seat, which I only saw at a distance; and which, I am told by a lady at Shrewsbury, of good taste, excels any in Wales, for natural beauty. X

Indeed the country, for five or six miles, is of another temper, exceedingly fertile, and very romantic. While I was looking at it, I asked Mr. P——, “Whether he thought it possible “for the eyes to behold a more pleasing sight?” He said, “Yes; the sight of a woman one “loves.” My answer was, “When I was in “love, I thought so.”

Our

Our last visit in Wales was to Chirk Castle; it was destroyed in the civil wars, and hath been rebuilt: * it is a bad imitation of an old castle; the most disagreeable dwelling-house I ever saw; nor is there any magnificence to make amends for the want of convenience; the rooms are indeed large in one part, but much too low; and the ceilings are so heavy, with clumsy fret-work, that they seem ready to fall upon one's head. It has a fine extensive prospect, but no other beauty of any kind; nor is the prospect to be compared with some we have seen, at the other castles in Wales.

I am, &c.

LYTTELTON.

* One side and three towers were demolished, but not the whole.

THE

THE ANCIENT
WELSH MEASURES,
AND
DIVISIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

WALES was originally divided into many royalties, or lordships, which, though they often vary in number, were all of them in general subject to a degree, during some periods at least, to one or the other of the three principalities of *Gwynedd*, *Powys*, and *Deheubarth*; or North Wales, Powys, and South Wales.

The greatest district of a determinate extent was the *cantref*, which was in most respects analogous to the English hundred. This was in general divided into two *cwmwd*, each of which consisted of fifty *tref*, or townships.

The measure of length consisted of the following gradations.

Three Barleycorns,	1 Inch.
Three Inches,	1 Palm.
Three Palms,	1 Foot.
Three Feet,	1 Pace or Stride.
Three Paces,	1 Leap.
Three Leaps,	1 Ridge or Land.
A Thousand Lands,	1 Mile.

From this table it appears, that the ancient Welsh mile consisted of 3000 leaps or yards, nearly a mile and three quarters of the present measure.

LAND MEASURE.

The ancient constitution of Wales thus explains the measure of a lawful acre. Four feet in length of the short yoke; eight in the field yoke; twelve in the lateral yoke; sixteen in the long yoke; and a rod equal in length with that in the hand of the driver, with his other hand upon the middle knob of that yoke; and as far as that reaches on each side of him is the breadth of an acre; and thirty times that is it's length.

It is otherwise defined thus: sixteen feet are in the length of the long yoke; sixteen yokes make the length of an acre; and two make it's breadth.

In the short yoke there were two oxen a-breast; in the next, four; in the next, six; and in the last, eight. This method of yoking was in use, in some parts of the country, in the last century.

Neither meadow, pasture, nor wood land were included in the acre; for only the arable ground was measured, that of every other description being deemed waste.

4 Erw or Acres, made	1 Tyddyn or Tenement.
4 Tyddyn or Tenements,	1 Rhandir or District.
4 Rhandir or Districts,	1 Gafel or Bailiwick.
4 Gafel or Bailiwicks,	1 Tref or Township.
4 Tref or Townships,	1 Maenol or Manor.
12 Maenol or Manors, & } { 1 Cwmwd or Association.	
2 Tref or Townships, } { 1 Cantref or Hundred.	
2 Cwmwd or Associations, } { Towns.	

The present division of Wales, into thirteen counties, was first settled on the introduction of the English laws into the country. In these, the ancient *cantref* and it's subdivisions were preserved generally; but the bounds of the principalities were, perhaps from political reasons, overlooked.*

* This and the two following articles are taken from the two first volumes of the Cambrian Register.

A CATALOGUE
OF
THE CROMLECHS,
AND
OTHER DRUIDICAL REMAINS,
IN THE
ISLAND OF ANGLESEA.



No.	<i>Parish.</i>
1. 2 at Plas Newydd,	Llan Edwen.
2. 1 at Bodowyr,	Llanidau.
3. 1 at Trefor,	Llansadwrn.
4. 2 at Rhôs Fawr,	Llanfair Mathafarn.
5. 1 at Llugy, (just by the road,).....	Penrhos Llugwy.
6. 1 at Parkiau, near Fedw ifaf,	Ditto.
7. 3 at Bodafon Mountain, ..	Llanfihangel Trer-beirdd.
8. 3 at Boddeiniol,	Llan Baleo.
9. 1 at Cromlech,	Llanfechell.
10. 1 at Henblas,	Llan Grifiolis.
11. 1 at Tynewyddland, ..	Llanfaelog.
12. 1 partly demolished on Mynydd y Cnwe, ..	Ditto.
13. 3 small ones near Cryg-hyll river,	Ditto.

370* A TOUR ROUND NORTH WALES.

No.	<i>Parish.</i>
14.	1 near Tywyn Trewen, Llanfihangel yn Neubwli.
15.	1 near Llanallgo, Llanallgo.
16.	1 at Cremlyn, Llandona.
17.	1 at Marian Pant y Saer, Llanfair Mathafarn.
18.	1 at Llech tál Mon, now demolished,
19.	1 at Myfyrian, Llanidan.
20.	1 at Bodlew,
21.	1 at Rhôs y Ceryg, ---
22.	An artificial mount at Bryn Celli, and a long ex- tended cavern beneath it.
23.	An artificial mount in the skirts of Plas Newydd Wood, commonly called Bryn yr hên Bobl: supposed to have been a Druidical sepulchral ground.

Total 30.

A

CATALOGUE
OF THE
NATURAL AND FACTITIOUS PRODUCTION
OF ANGLESEA.*



A.

Parish.

1 Alabaster, -----	Llangwyfan, -----	N.
2 Alum, -----	Amlwch, -----	F.
3 Asbestos, -----	Monachdy and Skerriæs, ..	N.
4 Arsenic, -----	Amlwch, ,-----	F.

B.

5 Brimstone, -----	Ditto, -----	N. and F.
--------------------	--------------	-----------

C.

6 Cimmolian Clay, -----		N.
7 Fuller's Clay, white and yellow, -----	Holyhead Mountain, ..	N.
8 Copper, -----	Amlwch, -----	N. and F.
9 Copperas, -----	Ditto, -----	N. and F.
10 Chert, China Stone, Petro Silex, -----	Llan Badrig, -----	N.
11 Ditto, -----	Llandegfan & Llan Gristiolis, N.	
12 Coals, -----	Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog, Llanffinan, ----- Trefdraeth, -----	} N.
13 Culm, -----	Pen y Crûg, Llan Gristiolis, N.	

* N. stands for Natural; F. for Factitious.

E.

Parish.

14 Earths, argillaceous
and silicious, Amlwch.

G.

15 Grit Stone, Trefdraeth and Llanddwyn,
16 Grinding Stones, ... Rhôs Fawr.
17 Gypsum, Llanfair-ynghornwy, N,

H.

18 Hones, Llanrhuddlad.

L.

19 Lead,—Dulas, Llanfihangel Ymhenrhos, .. N.
20 Lapis Tornatus, Llanddyfuan, N,
21 Lime Stones throughout the island.

M.

22 Marble, black & grey, Moelfre, Llanallgo, &c.
23 Marle, white, grey, &c. Llanddyfuan and Llanffruan, N.
24 Mill Stones, Rhôs Fawr and Penmon.

O.

25 Ochre, Paris Mountain, N. & F. and Llan Badrig, &c. N.

P.

26 Paving Stones, On the banks of the Menai.
27 Porphyry, Llanddwyn.

Q.

28 Quartz, Paris Mountain.

S.

29 Shale, Ditto and Llan Badrig.
30 Slates, Llanflewlyn.
31 Sulphur, *vide* Brimstone,

V.

32 Verdigrease, Paris Mountain, N. and F.
33 Vitriol, Ditto N. and F.

▲

CATALOGUE
OF THE
MORE UNCOMMON WELSH PLANTS,
WITH
THEIR PLACES OF GROWTH.

CLASS I.

MONANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.*

SALICORNUA ANNUA. *Annual Samphire*.—Eng. Bot. Tab. 415.†—*S. herbacea*. With. II. 4.—*S. Europaea*. Hudf. I. A. August, Sept.

Sea shores, generally in a muddy soil, common.

* Where the places are not fully described in the following list, reference may be made to the index, and from thence to some other part of the work.

† Books quoted:—*Aiton*. Hortis Kewensis. Lond. 1789. 8vo. 3 vol.—*Bol.* Bolton's felices Britannicæ, &c. 4to.—*Curtis*. Flora Londinensis.—*Eng. Bot.* English Botany, edited by Dr. Smith and Mr. Sowerby.—*Gerard*. Gerard's Herbal, by Johnson, 1736, folio.—*Lightf.* Lightfoot's Flora Scotica, 1777, 8vo. 2 vol.—*Linn. Tr.* Transactions of the Linnæan Society.—*Martyn*. Flora Rustica, 8vo. 4 vol.—*Ray*. J. Raii Synopsis Methodica, &c. Ed. 3, 1724, 8vo.—*Stillingfleet*. Miscellaneous Tracts relating to Natural History, &c.—*With*. Withering's Arrangement of British Plants. Ed. 3, 1796, 8vo. 4 vol.—*Woodv.* Woodville's Medical Botany, 4 vol. 4to. 1793.

HIPPURIS VULGARIS. *Common Mare's Tail*.—With. II. 5.—Curtis, 287.—P. May.

In a ditch, about a 100 yards north-west of Rhyd Marsh,
near Prestatyn, five miles from Ryddlan, Flintshire.

ZOSTERA MARINA. *Sea Graffwrack*.—With. II. 496.
—Eng. Bot. 467.—P. June—Aug.

Salt water ditches on the coast of Anglesea, frequent.

CHARA TOMENTOSA. *Brittle Stonewort*.—With. II.
2.—A. June—Oct.

On the peat bog, by the road side, opposite to Miss
Green's house, at Alyn bank, near Mold, Flintshire.

CHARA FLEXILIS. *Smooth Stonewort*.—With. II. 3.
—A. June—Oct.

In a pool, called Llyn Aled, in the parish of Llansan-
nan, not far from Gwytherin, Denbighshire.

CLASS II.

DIANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

LIGUSTRUM VULGARE. *Privet*.—With. II. 10.—
Curtis, 300.—S. June, July.

Hedges in gravelly soils in Anglesea.

VERONICA SPICATA. *Spiked Speedwell*.—With. II.
12.—Eng. Bot. 2.—P. June, July.

Diferth Castle Hill, near Rhyddlan, Flintshire.—Glod-
daeth, near Conwy; and on Penmaen Mawr, in Caer-
narvonshire.

VERONICA

VERONICA HYBRIDA. *Welsh Speedwell*.—With. II. 12.—Eng. Bot. 673.—P. July.

On Craig Breiddin, a mountain about eight miles from Welsh Pool in Montgomeryshire.

VERONICA OFFICINALIS. *Common Speedwell*.—With. II. 13.—Curtis, 198.—P. May—Aug.

Dry heathy ground in Caernarvonshire, not uncommon.

VERONICA SCUTELLATA. *Narrow-leaved Speedwell*.—With. II. 16.—Curtis, 333.—P. June—Aug.

Swampy soil in Anglesea, not uncommon.

VERONICA MONTANA. *Mountain Speedwell*.—With. II. 16.—Curtis, 220.—P. May, June.

Upper Wood, at Tower, near Mold, Flintshire.—Near the rivulet in Garn Dingle, three miles from Denbigh.

PINGUICULA VULGARIS. *Common Butterwort*.—With. II. 18.—Eng. Bot. 70.—P. May, June.

Bogs on the moors of Caernarvonshire, plentifully.

UTRICULARIA VULGARIS. *Greater Hooded-Milfoil*.—With. II. 19.—Eng. Bot. 253.—P. July.

Ditches and turbaries in Anglesea, not uncommon.

SALVIA PRATENSIS. *Meadow Clary*.—With. II. 21.—Eng. Bot. 153.—P. June, July.

Meadows near Llanidan, on the south-east coast of Anglesea, not far from Moel y Don Ferry.

SALVIA VERBENACA. *Wild Clary*.—With. II. 21.—Eng. Bot. 154.—P. June—Aug.

Ryddlan church-yard, Flintshire.

CLASS III.

TRIANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

VALERIANA RUBIA. *Red Valerian*.—With. II. 65.—
—Ger. 678, 1.—P. May—Aug.
Near Llanidan church, Anglesea.

IRIS FÆTIDISSIMA. *Stinking Iris*.—Eng. Bot. 596.—
I. Fætida. With. II. 70.—P. June, July.

In plenty near the square tower on the island of Priest-holme, near Beaumaris.

NARDUS STRICTA. *Small Matweed*.—With. II. 71.—
Eng. Bot. 290.—P. June—Aug.
Heaths and moors, common.

ERIOPHORUM VAGINATUM. *Single-headed Cotton Grass*.—With. II. 71.—Curtis, 219.—P. Feb.—April.

Turbaries, near Llyn Idwel, Caernarvonshire;—and
Llyn Aled, in the parish of Llansannan, Denbighshire.

ERIOPHORUM POLYSTACHION. *Broad-leaved Cotton Grass*.—With. II. 72.—Eng. Bot. 563.—P. May, June.

In the same places as *E. Vaginatum*, but not so common.

ERIOPHORUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM. *Many-headed Cotton Grass*.—With. II. 72.—Eng. Bot. 564.—P. June.

Bogs among the mountains of Caernarvonshire, very common.

SCIRPUS CÆSPITOSUS. *Dwarf Club-grass.*—With. II. 73.—P. June.

Turf bogs in Cwm Brwynog, near Llanberis, Caernarvonshire.

SCIRPUS MARITIMUS. *Salt-marsh Club-grass.*—With. II. 77.—Eng. Bot. 542.—P. Aug.

Saltney Marsh, near Chester;—and Rhyd Marsh, Flintshire.

CYPERUS NIGRICANS. *Round black-headed Rush-grass.*—With. II. 78.—P. June.

Bogs in Cwm Brwynog.

SCHÆNUS COMPRESSUS. *Compressed Rush-grass.*—With. II. 80.—P. July.

Marsh, a mile west of Prestatyn, on the sea-coast of Flintshire, about five miles N. E. of Rhyddlan.

SCHÆNUS ALBUS. *White-flowered Rush-grass.*—With. II. 81.—P. July—Sept.

In the bog, west of Dolbadarn Castle, near Llanberis.

TRIANDRIA.—DIGYNIA.

PHALARIS ARENARIA. *Sea Timothy-grass.*—With. II. 113.—Eng. Bot. 222.—A. July, Aug.

Newborough Sands, Anglesea.

ALOPECURUS GENICULATUS.—With. II. 130.—P. May, June.

Wet places about Garn, near Denbigh, very common.

CALAMAGROSTIS ARENARIA. *See Mat-weed.*—With. II. 123.—*Arundo Arenaria.* Linn.—P. June, July.

Sand banks on the sea shore about Rhil Marsh, near Rhyddlan, Flintshire. Near Orme's Head, Caernarvonshire, and not far from Towyn, Merionethshire.

CALAMAGROSTIS VARIEGATA.—Variety, 2.—With. II. 124.—P. July.

Bank of the rivulet that runs by Dolbadarn Castle, into the Lake in the vale of Llanberis.

MILUIM LENDIGERUM. *Panick Millet.*—With. II. 122.—*Alop. Ventricosus.* Huds. 28.—A. July, Aug.

Pastures east of Merlin Farm-house, in the parish of Lanyfylod, Denbighshire.

AIRA FLEXUOSA. *Heath Hair-Grass.*—With. II. 136.—P. June—Aug.

Crib y Ddescil, a high rock near Llanberis.

AIRA PRÆCON. *Early Hair-Grass.*—With. II. 137. P. May.

Lime rocks near Henllan, a village three miles N. W. of Denbigh.

MELICA NUTANS. *Mountain Melic.*—With. II. 138.—*M. Montana.*—Huds. 37,—P. June, July.

Garn Dingle, Denbighshire.

MELICA CÆRULEA. *Purple Melic.*—With. II. 139. *Aira cærulea.* Huds. 33.—P. June, July.

Turfy heaths near Llyn Idwel, Caernarvonshire. On Pary's mountain, in places so near the copper works, that no other plant will thrive.

MELICA UNIFLORA. *Wood Melic.*—With. II. 139.

Melica Nutans.—Huds. 37.—P. May—July.

Lower rocks of Gariegweh, near Garn, four miles from Denbigh.

POA ALPINA. With. II. 142.—Variety 2. *viriparous.*—P. June, July.

On Snowdon.

POA CRISTATA. *Crested Meadow-Grass.*—With. II. 145.—July.

Barren pastures near Henllan, Denbighshire.

POA RIGIDA. *Hard Meadow-Grass.*—With. II. 146. Curtis, 142.—A. June—Aug.

Lime rocks near Henllan.

POA MARITIMA. *Sea Meadow-Grass.*—With. II. 147.—P. June—Aug.

On part of the Marsh, a mile west of Prestatyn, Flintshire; that is overflowed by the sea, at spring tides.

POA GLAUGA. With. II. 148.—P. Alpina, (Variety, β.) Huds. 39.—P. June, July.

High mountains of Crib y Ddescil, near Llanberis, and Clogwyn y Garnedd, one side of Snowdon.

FESTUCA BROMOIDES. *Barren Fescue.*—With. II. 151.—A. May, June.

Denbigh Castle.

FESTUCA OVINA. *Sheep's Fescue.*—With II. 152.—Eng. Bot. 585.—Variety, 2. (*Viviparous*).—P. June, July.

On the higher mountains of Caernarvonshire, common.

FESTUCA RUBRA. *Purple Fescue*.—With. II. 153.—
Stillingfleet, 9.

Rocks on the south west side of the hollow, called
Cwm Idwel, near Llanberis.

FESTUCA CAMBRICA. *Welsh Fescue*.—With. II. 156.
P. July, Aug.

On Crib y Ddescil, and the highest mountains about
Llanberis, plentifully.

FESTUCA TENUIFOLIA.—With. II. 155.—P. June.
On Crib y Ddescil.

AVENA PUBESCENS. *Rough Oat*.—With. II. 165.—
P. June.

Hedges about Garn, near Denbigh, very common.

ROTBOLLIA INCURVATA. *Sea Hard-Graſſ*.—With.
II. 169.—P. July, Aug.

Rhil Marsh, near Rhyddlan, Flintshire; but seldom
observable on account of the sheep browsing so close:
it may however be readily detected, on the turf banks,
in front of the cottages, near the Stone house, which
are formed of sods, that have been taken from the
Marsh. MR. GRIFFITH.

ELYMUS ARENARIUS. *See Lime-Graſſ*.—With. II.
170.—P. July, Aug.

Sandy sea coast, near the Orme's Head, Caernarvonshire.

TRIANDRIA.—TRIGYNIA.

MONTIA FONTANA. *Water Blinks*.—With. II.
175.—Curtis, 188.—A. May—July.

In swampy ground on the right of the road, between
Buddgelert, and Tan y Bwlch, in Merionethshire.

CLASS.

CLASS IV.

TETRANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

DIPSACUS PILOSUS. *Small Teasel.*—With. II. 182.—
Curtis.—P. Aug.

About $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Newtown, on the left of the road from thence to Montgomery. Near the Forge, betwixt Welsh Pool, and Oswestry.

CENTUNCULUS MINIMUS. *Bastard Pempernel.*—With. II. 198.—Eng. Bot. 531.—A. June, July.

Moist ground about a mile from Llanrwst, near 250 yards beyond a small dingle called Nant Bwlch yr hiarn, and within 3 or 4 yards of the turnpike road, leading to Conwy.

PLANTAGO MARITIMA. *Sea Plantain.*—With. II. 197.—Eng. Bot. 175.—P. June, July.

Sea coast, common.—Near Caergwrle Castle, Flintshire.—Amongst the rocks near Tull Dû, above Llyn Idwel, Caernarvonshire.—By the road side from Bangor to Holyhead, about two miles from Gwyndy.

PLANTAGO CORONOPUS. *Buck's-horn Plantain.*—With. II. 198.—Ger. 427, 1.—A. June—Aug.

Sea shore not unfrequent.

RUBIA PEREGRINA. *Wild Madder.*—Hudson, 65.
R. Tinctorum.—With. II. 193.—P. June, July.
Hedges at Gloddaeth, near Conwy, Caernarvonshire.

GALIUM PROCUMBENS. *Trailing Goose-Graff.*—With. II. 187.—*G. Montanum.*—Huds. 67.—P. July.

Moors, common.

GALIUM BOREALE. *Cross-leaved Goose-Grass.*—
With. II. 192.—Eng. Bot. 105.

On the rocks near Tull Dû, above Llyn Idwel.—About half a mile from Llanberis, in the gravel by the side of the second rivulet, in the way to Llanrwst.

ASPERULA ODORATA. *Sweet Woodroof.*—With. II. 185.—Curtis. 249.—P. May.

Amongst the bushes on the banks of the Seiont, near Caernarvon Castle.

TETRANDRIA.—TETRAGYNIA.

POTAMOGETON GRAMINEUM. *Grass-leaved Pond Weed.*—With. II. 214.—P. July.

Rhil Marsh, near Rhyddlan, and ditches about that place.

RUPPIA MARITIMA. *Taffel Pond Weed.*—With. II. 215.—Eng. Bot. 136.—A. LINN.—P. HUDES.—July, Aug.

Salt water ditches near Llanddwyn, about two miles from Newborough, Anglesea.—Between Traeth Mawr, and Pont Aber Glâflyn, near Beddgelert.

CLASS V.

PENTANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

LITHOSPERMUM PURPURO - CÆRULEUM. *Creeping Gromwell.*—With. II. 126.—Eng. Bot. 117.—P, Apr. May.

On the top of a bushy hill, on the north side of the town of Denbigh.

ANCHUSA

ANCHUSA SEMPERVIRENS. *Evergreen Alkanet.*—With. II. 227.—Eng. Bot. 45.—P. May—July.

Amongst the ruins of Basingwerk Abbey, near Holywell, Flintshire, mistaken by Mr. Waring in With II. 228, for *Pulmonaria Angustifolia*.

PULMONARIA MARITIMA. *Sea Lungwort.*—With. II. 229.—Eng. Bot. 368.—P. July.

Amongst the sand on the sea coast, at Orme's Head, near Conwy.—Near Trefarthen, in Anglesea, about half-way betwixt the ferry from Caernarvon and Moel y Don.—By the river Llyfni, that runs from Llyniau Nantlle into the sea, about half-way betwixt Llandwrog and Clynog Vawr, in Caernarvonshire.

SYMPHYTUM OFFICINALE. *Common Comfrey.*—With. II. 230.—Curtis, 230.—P. May.

On the banks of the river Alyn, near Rosset Green, about half a mile east of the road leading from Chester to Wrexham.

BORAGO OFFICINALIS. *Common Borage.*—With. II. 231.—Eng. Bot. 36.—P. June—Aug.

On the summit of the high rock at Llandidno, near Conwy.—Amongst the rubbish on Harlech Marsh, just below the castle.

HOTTONIA PALUSTRIS. *Water Violet.*—With. II. 236.—Eng. Bot. 364.—P. June, July.

Ditches by the road side, midway between Pool Quay and the turnpike leading to Welsh Pool, Montgomeryshire.

LYSIMACHIA VULGARIS. *Yellow Loose-strife.*—With. II. 357.—Curtis, 288.—P. June, July.

Sides of ponds in Anglesea and Caernarvonshire, not very uncommon.

Ly-

LYSIMACHIA THYRSIFLORA. *Tufted Loose-strife.*—

With. II. 357.—Eng. Bot. 136.—P. June.

Said to have been found at Llyn-Ilechylched, but I never could meet with it. REV. HUGH DAVIES.

ANAGALLIS TENELLA. *Bog Pimpernel.*—With. II.

239.—Eng. Bot. 530.—P. July, Aug.

Wet meadows near Caernarvon, not unfrequent.

CONVOLVULUS SOLDANELLA. *Sea Bindweed.*—With.

II. 240.—Eng. Bot. 314.—P. July.

Sandy sea coasts of the south-west of Caernarvonshire and Anglesea, not uncommon.

CAMPANULA ROTUNDIFOLIA. *Round-leaved Bell Flower.* (Variety 2.)—With. II. 241.—P. July—Oct.

Mountains about Llanberis and Snowdon, plentifully,

CAMPANULA CATIFOLIA. *Giant Throatwort.*—With.

II. 243.—Eng. Bot. 302.—P. July, Aug.

Hedges near Holywell, Flintshire.

CAMPANULA TRACHELIUM. *Canterbury Bells.*—With.

II. 243.—Eng. Bot. 12.—P. July, Aug.

Thickets near Basingwerk Abbey.—Near the road leading from St. Asaph to Denbigh.

CAMPANULA GLOMERATA. *Clustered Bell Flower.*—

With. II. 244.—Eng. Bot. 90.—P. July.

Calcareous pastures near Rhyd y Cilwyn, between Denbigh and Ruthin, about two miles from Ruthin.

CAMPANULA HEDERACEA. *Ivy-leaved Bell Flower.*—

With. II. 245.—Eng. Bot. 73.—P. May—Aug.

Moist

Moist meadows in the vale of Llanberis, about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile beyond the village.—Road sides near Llanrwst.—Near the cataract, called Rhaidr y Wenol, 5 miles from Llanrwst.

LOBELIA DORTMANNA. *Water Gladiole.*—With. II. 245.—Eng. Bot. 140.—P. July, Aug.

In Llyn y Cwn, Ffynnon Frech, and Llyn Idwel, near Llanberis, and most of the other pools in elevated situations.

SAMOLUS VALERANDI. *Pimpernell Brookweed.*—With. II. 246.—Curtis, 268.—P. June, July.

In the marsh near Caernarvon Castle.

SESIONE MONTANA. *Hairy Sheep's Scabious.*—With. II. 247.—Curtis, 245.—A. June, July.

Dry parched situations about Denbigh, and many other places;—a plant by no means uncommon.

VERBASCUM LYCHNITIS. *Hoary Mullein.*—With. II. 249.—Eng. Bot. 58.—July.

Between Gresford and Little Acton, near Wrexham; about a mile from the latter place, abundantly.

ATROPA BELLADONNA. *Deadly Nightshade.*—With. II. 252.—Eng. Bot. 592.—P. June—Aug.

About Valle Crucis Abbey, near Llangollen, Denbighshire;—and by the road side, between Hawarden and Chester.

RHAMNUS CATHARTICUS. *Purging Buckthorn.*—With. II. 256.—Ger. 1137. 1.—S. April, May.

Garreg Wen rocks, near Garn, Denbighshire.

EVONYMUS EUROPAEUS. *Common Spindle Tree.*—With. II. 259.—Eng. Bot. 362.—S. May, June.

In the copse by Euloe Castle, near Hawarden, Flintshire.

VIOLA

VIOLA PALUSTRIS. *Marsh Violet*.—With. II. 261.—
Eng. Bot. 444.—P. April, May.

Bogs near Llyn Aled, Denbighshire.

VIOLA LUTEA. *Yellow Violet*.—With. II. 263.—
V. Grandiflora. Huds. 380.—P. May—Sept.

By the road side, betwixt Llanrwst and Ffestiniog, near
the bridge, about a mile from Penmachno;—and from
the tenth mile stone, on the road from Machynlleth to
Llanydloes, plentifully nearly all the way to the latter
place.

IMPATIENS NOLI-TANGERE. *Touch-me-not*.—With.
II. 263.—Ger. 446. 4.

On the banks of the river Camlet, at Marrington, in the
parish of Cherbury, about five miles from Montgomery.

RIBES GROSSULARIA. *Rough Gooseberry*.—With. II.
266.—S. April.

Rough places about Denbigh Castle.

RIBES UVA-CRISPA. *Smooth Gooseberry*.—With. II.
266.—Ger. 1324.—S. April, May.

About Denbigh Castle, along with the former;—and in
the hedges, by the road side, betwixt Caernarvon and
Bangor.

GLAUX MARITIMA. *Sea Milkwort*.—With. II. 268.
Eng. Bot. 13.—P. June, July.

Salt marshes near Conwy; and Dulas Bay, not far from
Amlwch, Anglesea.

VINCA MINOR. *Lesser Periwinkle*.—With. II. 268.
Curtis, 172.—P. May.

Road sides, near Pig y Frân, in the parish of St. Asaph.

PENTANDRIA.—DIGYNIA.

CHENOPODIUM MARITIMUM. *Sea Goosefoot.*—With. II. 273.—Eng. Bot. 633.—A. Aug.

Sea coast, near Llanfaglan church, about two miles S. W. of Caernarvon.

BETA MARATIMA. *Sea Beet.*—With. II. 277.—Eng. Bot. 285.—P. July—Sept.

On the south-west coast of Anglesea.

SALSOLA KALI. *Prickly Glasswort.*—With. II. 278.—Eng. Bot. 634.—A. July, Aug.

Amongst the sand on the coast of Anglesea, between the ferry from Caernarvon and Moel y Don.

GENTIANA PNEUMONANTHE. *Calathian Violet.*—With. II. 280.—Eng. Bot. 20.—P. August.

In moist uncultivated grounds, Anglesea.

GENTIANA AMARELLA. *Autumnal Gentian.*—With. II. 281.—Eng. Bot. 236.—A. Aug. Sept.

Dry ground between Holywell and Rhyddlan.—Bank sides near Denbigh.

GENTIANA CAMPESTRIS. *Field Gentian.*—With. II. 281.—Eng. Bot. 237.—A. Aug.—Oct.

About three miles from Holywell, by the road side, leading from thence to Rhyddlan, along with the last species.—Near Llanberis.

ERYNGIUM MARITIMUM. *Sea Holly.*—With. II. 283.—P. July, Aug.

Sea coast, among the sand near Harlech, Merionethshire.

CRITHMUM MARITIMUM. *Rock Samphire*.—With. II. 295.—Ger. 533. 1.—P. Aug.

Rocks on the sea coast, between Clynog Vawr and Nevin, Caernarvonshire;—and on the coast of Anglesea, not uncommon.

SUIM ANGUSTIFOLIUM. *Upright Water Parsnip*.—With. II. 299.—Eng. Bot. 139.—P. July—Sept.
By the sides of rivulets in Anglesea.

SISON INUNDATUM. *Water Stonewort*.—With. II. 301.—Eng. Bot. 227.—B. June.

Very common in rivulets in Anglesea.

OENANTHE CROCATA. *Hemlock Dropwort*.—With. II. 302.—Woody. 267.—P. June, July.

In Garn Dingle, and watery places in the neighbourhood, too common.

OENANTHE PIMPINELLORDES. *Parsley Dropwort*.—With. II. 302.—Eng. Bot. 347.—P. July, Aug.

Salt-marshes near Aber, Caernarvonshire.

PHELLANDRUM AQUATICUM. *Water Hemlock*.—With. II. 303.—Woody. 266.—B. June, July.

Wet meadows below Pentre Hobbin, near Mold.

AETHUSA MEUM. *Common Spignel*.—With. II. 305.—Ger. 1052. 1.—P. May.

Mountainous pastures near Dolgelle.

SCANDIX ODORATA. *Sweet Cicily*.—With. II. 306.—Ger. 1039. 3.—A. June.

Amongst the ruins of Valle Crucis Abbey, near Llangollen.

SCANDIX

SCANDIX CEREFOLIUM. *Common Chervil.*—With. II.

307.—Ger. 1038. 1.—A. May.

On the east side of Denbigh Castle.

SMYRNIUM OLUSATRUM. *Alexanders.*—With. II.

310.—Eng. Bot. 230.—B. May, June.

On Priestholme Island, near Beaumaris.

ANETHUM FŒNICULUM. *Common Fennel.*—With. II.

310.—Woodv. 160.—B. July, Aug.

In Rhyddlan church-yard.

APIUM GLAVEOLENS. *Smallage.*—With. II. 314.—

B. Aug.

Sides of ditches in Anglesea.

PENTANDRIA.—TRYGYNIA.

SAMBŪCUS EBULUS. *Dwarf Elder.*—With. II. 316,

Eng. Bot. 475.—S. July.

Near Llanfaelog, about 5 miles N. W. of Aberffraw, in Anglesea.—In a hedge on the coast, near the houses at Moel y Don Ferry.—Hedge near Harlech Castle.

PENTANDRIA.—TETRAGYNIA.

PARNASSIA PALUSTRIS. *Grass of Parnassus.*—With.

II. 319.—Eng. Bot. 82.—P. Aug.

Moist rocks near Tull Dû, above Liyn Idwel.

PENTANDRIA.—PENTAGYNIA.

STATICE ARMERIA. *Common Thrift.*—With. II. 319.

—Eng. Bot. 226.—P. May—July.

H h 2

In

In the marsh near Caernarvon Castle.—Sea coast at Dulas Bay, Anglesea.—Rocks near Tull Dû, and on Snowdon.

STATICE LIMONIUM. *Lavender Thrift.*—With. II. 320.—Eng. Bot. 102.—P. July—Sept.

Sea coast, in a marshy soil at Dulas Bay, Anglesea.

LINUM USITATISSIMUM. *Common Flax.*—With. II. 321.—Curtis, 326.—A. July.

On the left of the road betwixt Newtown and Montgomery, about a mile and a half from the latter place.

DROSERA ROTUNDIFOLIA. *Round-leaved Sundew.*—With. II. 323.—Ger. 1556. 1.—P. July, Aug.

Mossy bogs among the mountains of Caernarvonshire, plentifully.

DROSERA LONGIFOLIA. *Long-leaved Sundew.*—With. II. 324.—Ger. 1556. 2.—P. July, Aug.

Bogs near Beddgelert, Caernarvonshire.

CLASS VI.

HEXANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

ALLIUM VINEALE. *Crow Garlic.*—With. II. 333.—Ger. 179. 1.—P. June.

Rocks in Anglesea and Caernarvonshire.

ORNITHOGALUM UMBELLATUM. *Common Star of Bethlehem.*—With. II. 337.—Eng. Bot. 130.—P. April, May.

Maes y Porth woods, near Newborough, Anglesea.

SCILLA VERA. *Vernal Squill*.—With. II. 338.—Eng. Bot. 23.—P. May, June.

Cliffs on the coast of Anglesea.—Meadows about Glooddaeth, near Conwy.

ANTHERICUM SEROTINUM. *Mountain Saffron*.—With. II. 339.—Ray, 17. 1.—P. June.

On the high rock, called Clogwyn Du'r Arddu, between Llanberis and the summit of Snowdon;—and on the most inaccessible rocks above Llyn Idwel, very near Tull Dû, in abundance.

NARTHECIUM OSSIFRAGUM. *Lancashire Asphodel*.—With. II. 340.—Eng. Bot. 535.—P. July, Aug.

Turfy bogs, on the mountains between Caernarvon and Llanberis, plentifully.

ASPARAGUS OFFICINALIS. *Common Asparagus*.—With. II. 340.—Eng. Bot. 339.—P. July.

Sandy banks, by the sea side, between Llangwyfen and Llanfaelog, near Aberffraw, Anglesea.—Near the pool at Llanfaelog.

CONVALLARIA MAJALIS. *Lily of the Valley*.—With. II. 341.—Curtis, 302.—P. May.

On the north-west side of Garreg Wen rocks, near Garn.

JUNCUS ACUTUS. *Sea Hard Rush*.—With. II. 346.—P. July, Aug.

Sandy coast near Harlech, Merionethshire.

JUNCUS TRIGLUMIS. *Three-flowered Rush*.—With. II. 349.—Lightf. 9. 2.—P. June—Aug.

In the ascent from Llanberis to Glyder, only in one small spot, that lies between a small eminence, called Bryn brâs, and a rivulet, called Avon lâs.

JUNCUS MAXIMUS. *Wood Rush.*—With. II. 349.—Curtis, 344.—P. May, June.

Woods in Caernarvonshire and Anglesea, frequent.

HEXANDRIA.—TRIGYNIA.

RUMEX MARITIMUS.—With. II. 256.—Curtis, 163.—P. July—Sept.

On Rhyd Marsh, near Prestatyn, Flintshire, in the greatest abundance.

RUMEX DIGYNUS. *Welsh Sorrel.*—With. II. 357.—P. May—July.

In Tull Dû, above Llyn Idwel;—and on the rock that forms one side of Snowdon, called Clogwyn y Garnedd, plentifully.

TRIGLOCHIN MARITIMUM. *Sea Arrow-grass.*—With. II. 359.—Eng. Bot. 255.—P. May—Aug.
Salt marsh near Caernarvon Castle.

HEXANDRIA.—POLYGYNIA.

ALISMA NATANS. *Creeping Thrumwort.*—With. II. 362.—P. July.

In a small rivulet, on the west side of the lower lake at Llanberis, about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from Dolbadarn Castle.—South end of Bala Lake, Merionethshire.

ALISMA

ALISMA RANUNCULOIDES. *Lesser Thrumwort.*—With.
II. 362.—Eng. Bot. 326.—P. June—Sept.
Rhyd Marsh, near Prestatyn, Flintshire.

CLASS VII.

OCTANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

EPILOBIUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM. *Rosebay Willow-herb.*
With. II. 366.—Curtis, 106.—P. June—Aug.
On Creigiau Hysfa Bengam, high rocks between Llanberis and Cwm Idwel.

CHLORA PERFOLEATA. *Perforated Yellow-wort.*—
With. II. 369.—Eng. Bot. 60.—A. June—Sept.
On the side of the hill, by the road leading from Wenefred's well, at Holywell, down to the coast.

VACCINIUM MYRTILLIS. *Bilberries.*—With. II. 370.
Eng. Bot. 456.—S. April, May.
Heaths of Caernarvonshire, plentifully.

VACCINIUM ULIGINOSUM. *Great Bilberries.*—With.
II. 370.—Eng. Bot. 581.—S. April, May.
Moist high woods about Gwydir, near Llanrwst.

VACCINIUM VITIS-IDÆA. *Red Wortle-berries.*—With.
II. 371.—Eng. Bot. 598.—S. March, April.
Mountains of Caernarvonshire, not uncommon;—and on
Cader Idris, in Merionethshire.

VACCINIUM OXYCOCCOS. *Cranberries.*—With. II.
372.—Eng. Bot. 319.—S. May, June.

Peaty

Peaty bogs amongst the mountains of Caernarvonshire, not uncommon.

ERICA TETRALIX. *Cross-leaved Heath.*—With. II. 373.—Curtis.—S. July.

On the heaths every where.

ERICA CINERIA. *Fine-leaved Heath.*—With. II. 374.—Curtis, 297.—S. June—August.

On the moors abundantly.

DAPHNE LAUREOLA. *Spurge Laurel.*—With. II. 377.—Eng. Bot. 119.—S. March, April.

Woods and hedges.—In Park Pierce;—and in the Crest, near Denbigh.

DAPHNE CNEORUM. *Trailing Daphne.*—Aiton, II. 26.—S. April—Sept.

Said to have been found by Mr. Meyrick, a surgeon, who lives near Birmingham, about two miles from Beddgelert, by the road side leading to Caernarvon, just at the place where the ascent to the summit of Snowdon begins.—When I was at Beddgelert, I sought for it several times, but in vain; nor have I heard of any other person's having found it, except this gentleman. W. B.

OCTANDRIA.—TRYGYNIA.

POLYGONUM BISTORTA. *Great Makeweed.*—With. II. 382.—Eng. Bot. 509.—P. May, June.

Moist meadow in the front of Plas-on in the parish of Mold.

POLYGONUM VIVIPARUM. *Alpine Bistort.*—With. II. 282.—Eng. Bot. 669.

On Crib Coch, above Ffynnon Trech, near Llanberis.

POLY-

POLYGONUM FAGOPYRUM. *Buck Wheat*.—With. II. 384.—Martyn, 46.—A. July, Aug.

By the road side, between Ruthin and Llangollen, though probably from seed scattered from some field in which it was cultivated.—There are many fields of it about Llanymynech, betwixt Welsh Pool and Oswestry.

OCTANDRIA.—TETRAGYNIA.

PARIS QUADRIFOLIA. *Herb Paris*.—With. II. 385.—Eng. Bot. 7.—P. May, June.

On the north west of Garreg Wen rocks, and on the opposite side of the rivulet.

ADOXA MOSCHATELLINA. *Tuberous Moschatel*.—With. II. 386.—Eng. Bot. 453.—P. April, May.

Hedges about Garn, near Denbigh, common.—Under large fragments of the rocks above Llyn Idwel, $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile above the pool, exceedingly luxuriant.

CLASS VIII.

ENNEANDRIA.—HEXAGYNIA.

BUTOMUS UMBELLATUS. *Flowering Rush*.—With. II. 393.—Eng. Bot. 651.—P. June, July.

Rivulets in Anglesea, not uncommon.

CLASS IX.

DECANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

ANDROMEDA POLIFOLIA. *Wild Rosemary*.—With. II. 398.—S. June.

On a large morass flat, called Gors y Gasseg, (or Mare's Bog,) about a mile N. E. of Llyn Aled;—and in another morass, about the same distance west of the pool.

DECANDRIA.—DIGYNIA.

CHRYSPONIUM ALTERNIFOLIUM. — *Alternate-leaved Golden Saxifrage.*—With. II. 401.—Eng. Bot. 54.—P. March, April.

Moist places in the upper wood at Tower, near Mold.

CHRYSPONIUM OPPOSITIFOLIUM. *Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage.*—With. II. 402.—Eng. Bot. 490.—P. April, May.

Sides of boggy rivulets amongst the mountains of Caernarvoushire, common.

SAXIFRAGA STELLARIS. *Hairy Saxifrage.*—With. II. 402.—Eng. Bog. 167.—P. June, July.

Amongst the moist rocks about Llyn y Cwm, near Llanberis;—and in almost all other wet alpine situations in Caernarvonshire.—On Cader Idris, in Merionethshire.

SAXIFRAGA NIVALIS. *Mountain Saxifrage.*—With. II. 403.—Eng. Bot. 440.—P. end of Apr. to Oct.

Rocks about Tull Dû, above Llyn Idwel.—Near the summit of Glyder Vawr;—and on the higher parts of Clogwyn y Garnedd.

SAXIFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA. *Heath-like Saxifrage.*—With. II. 404.—Eng. Bot. 9.—P. April—June.

Rocks about Tull Dû.—On Glogwyn y Garnedd, near Snowdon;—and Craig y Cal, Cader Idris.

SAXIFRAGA GRANULATA. *White Saxifrage.*—With. II. 405.—Eng. Bot. 500.—P. Apr. May.

Dry

Dry places in Garn Dingle, by the rivulet at the bottom of the Glade.

SAXIFRAGA TRIDACTYLITES. *Rue-leaved Saxifrage.*

—With. II. 406.—Eng. Bot. 501.—A. April, May.

Walls of Conwy, Church-yard.

SAXIFRAGA HYPNOIDES. *Mossy Saxifrage.*—With.

II. 407.—Eng. Bot. 454.—P. May—July.

Alpine situations about Snowdon, Tull Dû, &c.

SAXIFRAGA PALMATA. *Palmate Saxifrage.*—Eng.

Bot. 455.—*S. Petraea*—With. III. 890.—P. April—June.

Rocks of Cwn Idwel, above Llyn Idwel, near Tull Dû.

SCELERANTHUS PERENNIS. *Perennial Knawell.*—

With. II. 407.—Eng. Bot. 352.—P. July, Aug.

Sandy places by the road side, betwixt Corwen, and Bala, Merionethshire.

SAPONARIA OFFICINALIS. *Common Soapwort.*—

With. II. 408.—Curtis.—P. July, Aug.

Amongst the ruins of Basingwerk Abbey, Flintshire.

Hedges in the lane between Llanrhaiadr, and the celebrated Cataract, called Pistyll Rhaeadr, in Montgomeryshire.

DECANDRIA.—TRIGYNIA.

CUCUBALUS BACCIFERUS. *Berry-bearing Chuckweed.*

—With. II. 411.—Ger. 614, 13.—A. July.

Found in the summer of 1798, by the Rev. E. Lloyd, in a hedge near Llanidan, Anglesea; but the year following he sought for it in vain:—it's being an annual, may account for this.

SILENE ANGLICA. *English Catch-Fly*.—With. II. 413.—Curtis, 266.—A June, July.

In a cornfield near the coast, not far from Llanfaglan Church, three miles S. W. of Caernarvon.

SILENE NUTANS. *Nottingham Catch-Fly*.—With. II. 413.—Eng. Bot. 465.—P. June, July.

Near Gloddaeth, Caernarvonshire.—Rocks above the mine works at Dalea Gôch, Flintshire.

SILENE MARITIMA. *Sea Catchfly*.—With. II. 415.—P. Apr.—Aug.

Sea coast near Llanfaglan Church.—Along the side of Llyn Cwellyn, betwixt Caernarvon, and Llanberis, in Plenty.—Amongst the high rocks of Clogwyn Du'r Arddu, near Llanberis.

SILENE ARMERIA. *Common Catchfly*.—With. II. 415.—A. July, Aug.

Sea rocks of Caernarvonshire, and Anglesea, not uncommon.

SILENE ACAULIS. *Moss Catchfly*.—With. II. 417.—Lightf. 12. 1.—P. May, June.

High rocks of Caernarvonshire, not uncommon.

STELLARIA NEMORUM. *Broad-leaved Stitchwort*.—With. II. 417.—Eng. Bot. 92.—P. June.

In a hedge on the east side of, and close to the river, Clwyd, about 100 yards above the Ford, at Rhyd y ddan Dwr, betwixt St. Asaph, and Rhyddlan.

STELLARIA ULIGINOSA. *Bog Stitchwort*.—With. II. 420.—Ger. 613. 8.—A. June.

Along

Along with *Centunculus Minimus*, in a piece of moist ground about a mile from Llanrwst, about 250 yards beyond a small Dingle, called Nant Bwlch yr Hiarn, and within 3 or 4 yards of the turnpike road, leading to Conwy.

ARENARIA PEPLOIDES. *Sea Sandwort*.—With. II. 421.—Eng. Bot. 189.—P. June, July.

On an Island in Llanddwyn, near Newborough, Anglesea.

ARENARIA MARINA. *Sea Spurry*.—With. II. 422.—Curtis, 268.—P. May.—Oct.

Salt Marsh near Caernarvon Castle.—Marshy ground near Dulas Bay, Anglesea.

ARENARIA RUBRA. *Purple Spurry*.—With. II. 422.—A. June—Aug.

Sandy road sides near Gwyndy, the inn betwixt Bangor Ferry and Holyhead, and in other parts of Anglesea, common.

ARENARIA MEDIA. *Downy Sandwort*.—With. II. 422.—A. June—Sept.

" I believe, I have found this plant on Rhyddlan Marsh,
" but am not quite certain." MR. GRIFFITH.

ARENARIA Verna. *Mountain Sandwort*.—With. II. 423.—Eng. Bot. 512.—P. May—Aug.

Road side betwixt Holywell, and St. Asaph, in plenty.—
Mountainous situations about Llanberis, and Snowdon, common.

Variety, 1. *A. Laricifolia*.—With. II. 424.

Amongst the rocks near Tull Dû, above Llyn Idwel;—
and on Clogwyn y Garnedd,

Variety,

Variety, 2. *A. Juniperina*.—With. II. 424.

Near Tull Dû, along with the last.

ARENARIA TENUIFOLIA. *Fine-leaved Sandwort*.—

With. II. 423.—Eng. Bot. 219.—A, June, July.

On an Island in Llanddwyn, near Newborough, Anglesea.

DECANDRIA.—PENTAGYNIA.

COTYLEDON UMBILICUS. *Common Navel-wort*.—

With. II. 425.—Eng. Bot. 325.—P. June—Sept.

On old walls and moist rocks in Caernarvonshire, and Merionethshire, in abundance.

SEDMUM TELEPHIUM. *Orpine Stone-crop*.—With. II. 426.—Curtis, 210.—P. Aug.

Amongst the bushes on Tuthill, the rock behind the Hotel Caernarvon.—Hedges near the coast about Caernarvon, not uncommon.

SEDMUM SEXANGULARE. *Inipid Stone-crop*.—With. II. 428.—Curtis, 225.—P. June.

Near Rhuddgall Warren, in the Isle of Anglesea, nearly opposite to Caernarvon.

SEDMUM ANGLICUM. *English Stone-crop*.—With. II. 428.—Eng. Bot. 171.—P. May, June.

Rocks of Caernarvonshire, in abundance.

SEDMUM REFLEXUM. *Yellow Stone-crop*.—With. II. 429.—P. July.

Walls and roofs of cottages near Aber, Caernarvonshire.

SEDMUM RUPESTRE. *Rock Stone-crop*.—With. II. 429.—Eng. Bot. 170.—P. July.

On

On the north side of Penmaen Mawr, in Caernarvonshire, amongst the loose stones above the turnpike road, very near the inaccessible rocks; amongst the high rocks called Creigiau Hysfa Bengam, betwixt Llanberis, and Cwm Idwel. On a wall south of Gwydir Chapel, by the road side leading from Llanrwst, to Capel Curig.

LYCHNIS VISCARIA. *Viscous Catchfly.*—With. II. 433.—P. May, June.

Sides of Craig Breiddin, a lofty mountain in Montgomeryshire, about eight miles from Welsh Pool.

CERASTIUM ALPINUM. *Alpine Mouse-ear.*—With. II. 434.—Eng. Bot. 472.—P. July, Aug.

Moist rocks of Clogwyn y Garnedd, near Snowdon. On the north side of Yr Wyddfa, the summit of Snowdon.—And on Clogwyn du'r Arddu.

CERASTIUM CATIFOLIUM. *Broad Leaved Mouse-ear.*—With. II. 434.—Eng. Bot. 473.—P. June.

On Clogwyn y Garnedd, growing along with the last species.

SPERGULA SUBULATA.—With. II. 436.—*S. Saginoides.*—Curt. 139.—*S. Laricina.*—Huds. 203.—P. June—Aug.

Dry pastures about Deûnant, between Llansannan, and Denbigh.—On the first common, as one ascends the hill from Nant Glyn, towards Henllan, Denbighshire.

SPERGULA NODOSA. *Knotted Spurry.*—With. II. 437.—Curt. 261.—P. July—Sept.

Moist ground near Caernarvon, not uncommon.

CLASS X.

DODECANDRIA.—TRIGYNIA.

RESEDA CUTEOLA. *Wild Woad*.—With. II. 445.—
Eng. Bot. 320.—A. June, July.

On the coast of Anglesea, betwixt the Ferry from Caernarvon, and Moel y Don.—Castell Dolforwyn, near Newtown.

EUPHORBIA PORTLANDICA. *Portland Spurge*.—
With. II. 448.—Eng. Bot. 441.—A. May—Aug.
Sandy sea coast near Caernarvon;—And on the S. W. parts of Anglesea.

EUPHORBIA AMYGDALOIDES. *Wood Spurge*.—With. II. 452.—Eng. Bot. 256.—P. May.
In the wood betwixt Trap Bridge, and Flynnion Fair, or Dol Beledr in the parish of Henllan, close to a dangerous path, called Llwybr y Gorth Goed.

CLASS XI.

ICOSANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

PRUNUS PADUS. *Bird's Cherry*.—With. II. 455.—
S. May.

Woods and Hedges betwixt Mold, and Nercwys;—and in several other places of that neighbourhood, very common.

ICOSANDRIA.—DIGYNIA.

CRAEGRUS ARIA. *White-beam-Tree*.—With. II. 258.—Ger. 1327-2.—T. May.

Near Gloddaeth, Caernarvonshire. On Penmaen Mawr;
—And on Craig Breiddin, Montgomeryshire.

CRATEGUS TERMINALIS. *Wild Service Tree.*—With.
II. 458.—Eng. Bot. 298.—T. May.
West side of Garreg Wen rocks, near Garn, Denbighshire, abundantly.

ICOSANDRIA.—TRIGYNIA.

SORBUS AUCUPARIA. *Mountain Ash.*—With II.
460.—Eng. Bot. 337.—T. May.

Woods and Hedges, very common throughout the whole of North Wales.

SORBUS HYBRIDA. *Bastard Service.*—With. II.
461.—Flora Danica, 301.—T. May.

On the north wall of Castell Dinas Brân, near Llan-gollen, Denbighshire.

ICOSANDRIA.—PENTAGYNIA.

SPIRAEA FILIPENDULA. *Dropwort.*—With. II. 463.
—Eng. Bot. 284.—P. June, July.

Calcareous rocks and pastures, near the church at Llandidno, about 5 miles from Conwy.

ICOSANDRIA.—POLYGYNIA.

ROSA SPINOSISSIMA. *Burnet Rose.*—With. II. 465.
Eng. Bot. 187.—S. June, July.

On Tuthill, behind the Hotel, at Caernarvon; and in the hedges of the road from thence to Bangor, plentifully.—On Llanymynech hill, in Montgomeryshire.

ROSA VILLOSA. *Apple Rose.*—With. II. 466.—Eng.
Bot. 583.—S. June.

Hedges nearly all the way from Llanydloes, to Newtown, Montgomeryshire.

RUBUS IDÆUS. *Rasp-berry Bush*.—With. II. 468.—
S. May, June.

In Thickets amongst the mountains, between Caernarvon, and in other parts of North Wales, not very uncommon.

RUBUS SAXATILIS. *Stone Bramble*.—With. II. 470.
—P. June.

Amongst the stones near Llyn y Cwn, above Llanberis.

RUBUS CHAMÆMORUS. *Cloud Berry*.—With. II. 471.
—1. May, June.

On Peat bogs, amongst the mountains of Caernarvonshire, and Merionethshire, not unfrequent.

POTENTILLA RUPESTRIS. *Rock Cinquefoil*.—With.
II. 473.—Ger. 991.—P. July.

On the sides of Craig Breiddin, Montgomeryshire.

POTENTILLA ARGENTEA. *Hoary Cinquefoil*.—With.
II. 474.—Eng. Bot. 89.—P. June—Sept.

Near the remains of one of the Towers of Montgomery castle.

POTENTILLA Verna. *Spring Cinquefoil*.—With. II.
475.—Eng. Bot. 37.—P. April—June.

Dry places near Gloddaeth, Caernarvonshire.

TORMENTILLA REPTANS. *Creeping Tormentil*.—
With. II. 476.—P. June, July.

Sandy barren places about Caernarvon, and Llanrwst.

GEUM RIVALE. *Water Avens*.—With. II. 478.—
Eng. Bot. 106.—P. June, July.

Amongst the rocks, very near the summit of Snowdon.

COMARUM PALUSTRE. *Marsh Cinquefoil.*—With. II. 479.—Eng. Bot. 172.—P. June, July.

In muddy putrid marshes in Anglesea, not uncommon.

CLASS XII.

POLYANDRIA.—MONOGYNIA.

CHELIDONIUM GLAUCIUM. *Yellow-horned Poppy.*—With. II. 584.—Eng. Bot. 8.—A. July, Aug.

On the sea coast, between Caernarvon and Llanfaiglan church;—and on the coast about Llandidno, near Conwy.

PAPAVER CAMBRICUM. *Yellow Poppy.*—With. II. 488.—Eng. Bot. 66.—P. June—Aug.

A little beyond the village of Llanberis, near the road leading to Llanrwst.—On Craig Breiddin, Montgomeryshire.

NYMPHÆA LUTEA. *Yellow Water Lily.*—With. II. 488.—Eng. Bot. 159.—P. July, Aug.

In slow rivers in Anglesea, frequent.

NYMPHÆA ALBA. *White Water Lily.*—With. II. 489.—Eng. Bot. 160.—P. July.

In Llyn Tecwyn Isa, a pool, near the road betwixt Tan-y-bwlch and Harlech, in Merionethshire;—and in Llyn Mwyngil, betwixt Dolgelle and Machynlleth.

CISTUS MARIFOLIUS. *Hoary Dwarf Cistus.*—Eng. Bot. 396.—*C. Anglicus.*—With. II. 490.—*C. Hir-sutus.*—Huds. 232.—P. May—July.

On Diferth Castle hill, near Rhyddlan, Flintshire, plentifully.—Gloccaeth, near Conwy;—and on the west side of Burod Arthur, near Llandonna, about five miles from Beaumaris, Anglesea.

CISTUS GUTTALUS. *Spotted-flowered Cistus.*—With. II. 591.—Eng. Bot. 544.—P. June, July.

Sandy pastures on the mountain called Llech ddu, near Holyhead, Anglesea.

CISTUS HELIANTHEMUM. *Dwarf Cistus.*—With. II. 492.—Curtis.—P. June—Aug.

On Diferth Castle hill;—and Llynymynech hill in Montgomeryshire.

POLYANDRIA.—PENTAGYNIA.

AQUILEGIA VULGARIS. *Columbines.*—With. II. 495.—Eng. Bot. 297.—P. June.

Thickets near Bangor, Caernarvonshire.

POLYANDRIA.—POLYGYNIA.

ANEMONE NEMOROSA, having on the leaves *Lycoperdon Innatum*. *Conjuror of Chalcrave's Fern.*—With. IV. 383

In Mr. Pennant's woods, at Downing, near Holywell, Flintshire.

THALICTRUM ALPINUM. *Mountain Rue-weed.*—With. II. 500.—Eng. Bot. 262.—P. June.

Rocks about Llyn y Cwn, and Tull Dû;—and on Clogwyn y Garnedd.

THALICHTRUM MINUS. *Lesser Rue-weed.*—With. II. 500.—Eng. Bot. 11—P. July, Aug.

On

On Diferth Castle hill.—Rocks about Tull Dû and Snowdon;—and on Cader Idris, in Merionethshire.

RANUNCULUS LINGUA. *Great Spearwort.*—With. II. 504.—Eng. Bot. 100.

Wet pastures about Caernarvon.

RANUNCULUS GRAMINEUS. *Grass-leaved Crowfoot.*
—With. II. 505.—P. Apr. May

“ Said to be found in the neighbourhood of Llanrwst,
but I have hitherto sought for it in vain.”

MR. GRIFFITH.

RANUNCULUS PARVIFLORUS. *Small-flowered Crowfoot.*—With. II. 506.—Eng. Bot. 120.—A. May,
June.

In a gravelly soil near Holyhead, Anglesea.

RANUNCULUS HEDERACEUS. *Ivy-leaved Crowfoot.*—
With. II. 507.—Curtis, 247.—P. June—Aug.

In shallow streams in Caernarvonshire, common.

TROLLIUS EUROPEUS. *Globe Flower.*—With. II.
509.—Eng. Bot. 28.—P. May, June.

In the vale of Llanheris.

HELLEBORUS VIRIDIS. *Green Hellebore.*—With. II.
510.—Eng. Bot. 200.—P. March—May.

In the wood close to the house of Robert Watkin Wynne,
Esq. at Plâs Newydd, near Denbigh.

HELLEBORUS FŒTIDUS. *Bear's Foot.*—With. II.
510.—Eng. Bot. 613.—P. April.

Park Pierce, and the Crest near Denbigh.

CLASS

CLASS XIII.

DIDYNAMIA.—GYMNOSPERMIA.

AJUGA ALPINA. *Alpine Bugle*.—Eng. Bot. 477.—With. III. 516.—P. June, July.

On Carnedd Llewelyn, a high mountain, near Nant Frangon, between Bangor and Capel Curig, in Caernarvonshire.

TEUCRIUM CHAMEDRYS. *Common Germander*.—With. III. 518.—Woodv. 243.—P. June, July.

"In the N. W. hedge of the bowling-green at Ruthin Castle, Denbighshire; but it grew there some time before the bowling-green was made." MR. GRIFFITH.

NEPETA CATARIA. *Catmint*.—With. III. 519.—Eng. Bot. 137.—P. July.

Hedges betwixt Bangor and Caernarvon.

VERBENA OFFICINALIS. *Vervain*.—With. III. 520.—Curtis.—A. Aug. Sept.

Waste places near Caernarvon Castle, in plenty,

GALEOPSIS GRANDIFLORA.—With. III. 529.—*G. Villosa*.—Huds. 256.—A. July, Aug.

Sandy fields about Bangor.

GALEOPSIS VERSICOLOR. *Large-flowered Hemp Nettle*.—Eng. Bot. 667.—*G. Carmabena*. With. III. 529.—*G. Tetrahit*. 8. Huds. 257.—A. July, Aug.

About Chirk, in Denbighshire, and in many small inclosures by the road side from thence to Llangollen.

GALEOBOLON LUTEUM. *Yellow Dead Nettle.*—

With. III. 530.—Curtis, 223.—P. May, June.

In the hedge on the left of the road leading from Llangollen to Valle Crucis Abbey.

BETONICA OFFICINALIS. *Wood Betony.*—With. III.

531.—Curtis, 154.—P. July, Aug.

Hedges about Caernarvon, common.

STACHYS ARVENSIS. *Corn Woundwort.*—With. III.

552.—Curtis, 246.—A. June—Aug.

Cornfields near Caernarvon.

LEONURUS CARDIACA. *Common Motherwort.*—With.

III. 534.—Eng. Bot. 286.—P. June—Aug.

In the hedge on the right of the road between Hawarden and Holywell, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the former place.

ORIGANUM VULGARE. *Wild Marjoram.*—With. III.

535.—Curtis, 338.—P. July.

Amongst the ruins of Conwy Castle.—Hedges about Llanrwst.

THYMUS ACINOS. *Basil Thyme.*—With. III. 539.—

Eng. Bot. 411.—A. June—Aug.

In a dry field, between Ty-Newydd and Eriviatt, in the parish of Henilan, Denbighshire.

SCUTELLARIA MINOR. *Lesser Scullcap.*—With. III.

540.—Eng. Bot. 524.—P. July, Aug.

Moist grounds about Caernarvon and Llanberis.

DIDYNAMIA.—ANGIOSPERMIA.

MELAMPYRUM SYLVATICUM. *Yellow Cow-Wheat.*—

With. III. 546.—A. June—Aug.

Shady

Shady places on the left of the road betwixt Barmouth and Dolgelle.

LATHRÆA SQUAMARIA. *Great Toothwort*.—With. III. 547.—Eng. Bot. 50.—P. April, May.

Shady places on the west side of Garreg Wen rocks, near Garn, close to the rivulet.

ANTIRRHINUM CYMBALARIA. *Ivy-leaved Snap-Dragon*.—With. III. 549.—Eng. Bot. 502.—P. June—October.

On an old wall, near Mold, Flintshire.—On a wall, before the door of a gentleman's house, near Beaumaris, Anglesea, called the Hermitage.

ANTIRRHINUM ELATINE. *Sharp-pointed Toad-flax*. With. III. 549.—Curtis. A. Aug.—October.

In the first field, from the house of Plâs Meifodd, in the parish of Henllan.—On hedge banks about Ty Newydd, in Rhil, near Rhyddlan, Flintshire.

ANTIRRHINUM MINUS. *Least Snap-Dragon*.—With. III. 551.—Curtis, 296.—A. June—September.

Sandy corn fields, between Abergelley and the sea, Denbighshire.

ANTIRRHINUM ORONTIUM. *Less Snap-Dragon*.—With. III. 552.—Curtis, 234.—A. July, August.

Corn fields about Abergelley, and in many other places along the sea coast, from thence toward Conwy ferry.

ANTIRRHINUM MAJUS. *Greater Snap-Dragon*.—With. III. 552.—Eng. Bot. 129.—B. June, July.

On the walls of Basingwerk Abbey, near Holywell.—Old walls about Ruthin.

SCHIOPHULARIA VERNALIS. *Yellow Figwort*.—With. III. 554.—Eng. Bot. 567.—B. April, May.

Near Gloddaeth, Caernarvonshire.—About Llanforda,
the seat of Sir Williams Wynne, Bart. Merionethshire.

LIMOSELLA AQUATICA. *Mudwort*.—With. III. 557.—
Eng. Bot. 357.—A. July—Sept.

Rhyd Marsh, near Prestatyn, Flintshire.

OROBANCHE MAJOR. *Common Broomrape*.—With.
III. 557.—Eng. Bot. 441.—P. May, June.

Cliffs of Anglesea on the tide of the Menai, between
the ferry from Caernarvon and Moel y Don.

OROBANCHE MINOR. *Lesser Broomrape*.—Eng. Bot.
422.—*O. Ramosa*, β , Huds. 266.—P. June, July.

In two or three places amongst the ruins of Conwy Castle.

CLASS XIV.

TETRADYNAMIA.—SILICULOSA.

BUNIAS CAKILE. *Sea Rocket*.—With. III. 562.—
Eng. Bot. 231.—A. June—Oct.

Coast of Anglesea, near Abermenai ferry.

CRAMBE MARITIMA. *Sea Colewort*.—With. III. 563.
P. May, June.

Sandy sea coast, between Rhuddgaer and Llanddwyn,
Anglesea.—Llyn, Caernarvonshire.

SUBULARIA AQUATICA. *Water Awlwort*.—With. III.
564.—A. June, July.

In the pool near Llanberis, called Ffynnon Frech, plentifully.—In Llyn y Cwn, but much more sparingly.

DRABA INCANA. *Twisted-podded Whitlow-Grass.*—

With. III. 566.—Eng. Bot. 388.—B. May—July.

On the high rocks, between Llanberis and Llyn Idwel, called Creigian Hysfa Bengam.

LEPIDIUM LATIFOLIUM. *Broad-leaved Pepper-Wort.*

With. III. 367.—Eng. Bot. 182.—P. June, July.

On hedge banks, betwixt Rhyddlan and the sea, a little way from the Stone House.—On a small common in Denbigh Castle, above the high gate.

THLASPI CAMPESTRE. *Mithridate-Mustard.*—With.

III. 569.—Curtis.—B. June, July.

Dry lanes near Caernarvon, not uncommon.

THLASPI ALPESTRE. *Alpine Shepherd's Purse.*—With.

III. 570.—Eng. Bot. 81.—*T. Montanum.*—Huds. 282.—B. July.

By the side of a rivulet, on a dingle, called Nant Bwlch yr hiarn, about a mile from Llanrwst bridge, and not more than 20 yards from the turnpike road leading to Conwy.

COCHLEARIA OFFICINALIS. *Scurvy Grass.*—With.

III. 572.—Eng. Bot. 551.—A. April, May.

Sea shores near Barmouth, Merionethshire;—and on Clogwyn y Garnedd, near Snowdon.

Variety I.—*C. Groenlandica.*—With. III. 573.

Moist rocks about Llanberis and Snowdon, plentifully.

COCHLEARIA DANICA. *Danish Scurvy-Grass.*—With.

III. 573.—A. May—July.

Sea

Sea shore near Llanbadric church, on the north coast of Anglesea.

COCHLEARIA ANGLICA. *English Scurvy-Graſs.*—

With. III. 574.—Eng. Bot. 552.—A. or B. May.

Sea shores, in a muddy ſoil, on the north-east coast of Anglesea.

IBERIS NUDICAULIS. *Naked-stalked Candy Tuft.*—

With. III. 575.—Eng. Bot. 327.—A. May—July.

On the ſide of the hill, half a mile from Corwen, above the turnpike road leading to Llangollen.—On banks, about the mid-way from Cerrig y Druidion to Denbigh;—and between Pont y Gwyddel and Bettws Abergely, in Denbighshire.

TETRADYNAMIA.—SILIQUOSA.

CARDAMINE HIRSUTA. *Hairy-leaved Ladies'-Smock.*

With. III. 578.—Eng. Bot. 492.—A. March—June.

Near Lord Penrhyn's ſlate quarries, betwixt Bangor and Capel Curig.—Dry banks about Bala, Llanrhaiadr, and ſeveral other places.

SISYMBRIUM TENUIFOLIUM. *Wall Rocket.*—Eng.

Bot. 525.—*Braffica Muralis.*—With. III. 592.—Huds. 290.—P. May—July.

On the walls of Harlech Castle, Merionethshire.

ERYSIMUM CHEIRANTHOIDES. *Treacle Wormseed.*—

With. III. 585.—A. July.

Turnip and corn fields near Tan y Llan, in the parish of Llanyfddd, in Denbighshire.

CHEIRANTHUS SINUATUS. *Prickly-podded Cilly Flower.*—With. III. 586.—Eng. Bot. 462.—B. June, July.

Newborough sands, Anglesea.—Sea coast near Penmorfa, Caernarvonshire.

ARABIS THALIANA. *Wall Cress.*—With. III. 587.—Curtis.—A. May.

Hill near the parsonage house at Henllan, Denbighshire, and in that neighbourhood abundantly.

ARABIS HISPIDA.—Linn. Syst. Veg. ed. 13. p. 501.—*Cardamine Petraea.*—With. III. 577.—P. May—July.

On the high rock near Llanberis, called Clogwyn Du'r Arddu, plentifully.

I have placed this plant here from the opinion of Dr. Smith, who compared my specimens with those of Linnaeus in his possession. He tells me, that *Cardamine Haftulata*, Eng. Bot. 469, is nothing more than a smooth variety of it. Mr. Griffith, induced probably by Lightfoot's figure, 15. 2. and the plate in Eng. Bot. is of opinion, that this plant is *C. Haftulata*. All doubts on the subject will, however, be removed, on the appearance of Dr. Smith's intended Flora Britannica, a work that has been very long and anxiously expected. W. B.

TURRITIS HIRSUTA. *Hairy Towerwort.*—With. III. 589.—P. June, July.

On Garreg Wen rocks, near Garn,

BRASSICA OLERACEA. *Sea Cabbage.*—With. III. 591.—Eng. Bot. 637.—P. May, June.

Near

Near Harlech Castle, Merionethshire.—Near Aberdaron,
at the extremity of the Promontory of Llyn, Caernarvonshire,

BRASSICA MONENSIS. *Isle of Man Cabbage.*—With.
III. 593.—Lightf. 15.1.—B. May—July.

In sandy soil on the sea coast, near Abermenai Ferry,
Anglesea.

CLASS XV.

MONADELPHIA.—PENTANDRIA.

ERODIUM MARITIMUM. *Sea Storkbill.*—Eng. Bot.
646.—L' Herit. in Ait. Hort. Kew. II. 416.—
Geranium Maritimum.—With. III. 6.6.—Huds.
301.—P. May—Sept.

Walls on the coast near Llanfaglan Church, three miles
S. W. of Caernarvon.

MONADELPHIA.—DECANDRIA.

GERANIUM SANGUINEUM. *Bloody Cranesbill.*—
With. III. 600.—Eng. Bot. 272.—P. July—Sept.

Near Diferth Castle, Flintshire.—Gloddaeth near
Conwy.—On cliffs of the coast of Anglesea, betwixt
the Ferry, from Caernarvon, and Moel y Don.

GERANIUM DISSECTUM. *Jagged Cranesbill.*—
With. III. 603.—Curtis.—A. May—Aug.

Borders of fields, &c. in the neighbourhood of Garn,
near Denbigh, common.

GER-

GERANIUM COLUMBINUM. *Long-stalked Cranesbill.*

—With. III. 603.—Eng. Bot. 259.—A. June—Aug.

In many of the cornfields near Caernarvon;—In the hedge near the second milestone, on the road from that place to Bangor.

GERANIUM LUCIDUM. *Shining Cranesbill.*—With.

III. 607.—Eng. Bot. 75.—A. June—Aug.

Shady places about Gwydir Chapel, near Llanrwst.
Under the Bridge wall at Rûg, near Corwen, Merionethshire.

GERANIUM ROTUNDIFOLIUM. *Dove's-foot Cranesbill.*

With. III. 372.—Eng. Bot. 157.—A. May—July.

In the neighbourhood of Garn.

MONADELPHIA.—POLYANDRIA.**MALVA MOSCHATA.** *Musk Mallow.*—With. III.

613.—Curtis. 228.—P. July—Aug.

Hedges near Cernarvon, and Llanrwst.

LAVATERA ARBOREA. *Sea Tree Mallow.*—With III.

614.—B. July—Oct.

On the coast of Anglesea.

CLASS XVI.**DIADELPHIA.—HEXANDRIA.****FUMARIA LUTEA.** *Yellow Fumitory.*—Eng. Bot.

588.—F. *Capnoidea.*—With. III. 620.—P. May—Sept.

Said to grow on the rock behind the town of Barmouth,
but I sought for it in vain. W. B.

FUMARIA

FUMARIA CLAVICULATA. *Climbing Fumitory.*—With. III. 621.—Eng. Bot. 103.—A. June—Sept.

Under the walls, near a Farm-house, in Gwynant, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beddgelert, at the entrance into Cwm Llan.—Amongst the ruins of Caergurle Castle, Flintshire.—Under Glyn Bridge, near Corwen.—In a hedge in the lane, at the North end of Bala Pool.—In the lane leading from Llanrhaiadr, to Pistyll Rhaeadr.

DIADELPHIA.—DECANDRIA.

GENISTA PILOSA. *Hairy Greenweed.*—With. III. 625.—Eng. Bot. 208.—S. May. June.

Between Dolgelle, and Llyn Arran, at the foot of Cader Idris, about half a mile from the pool.

GENISTA ANGLICA. *Needle Furze.*—With. III. 625.—Eng. Bot. 132.—S. May, June.

Uncultivated ground in Anglesea, frequent.

ANTHYLLIS VULNERARIA. *Ladies'-Finger.*—With. III. 629.—Eng. Bot. 104.—P. May—Aug.

Diferth Castle Hill, near Rhyddlan.

Variety, II.—Blossoms scarlet.

On the sand banks near Llanddwyn, Anglesea.

OROBUS SYLVATICUS. *Bitter Vetch.*—With. III. 630.—Eng. Bot. 518.—P. May—July.

Pastures betwixt the Inn at Ffestiniog, and the bridge over the Cynfael, near the falls.—In meadows on the banks of the Conwy, about seven miles above Llanrwst.—Near the cataract at Dolymelynllyn, 6 miles from Dolgelle.—About Cerrig y Druidion, and Yspytty, Denbighshire.

OROBUS

OROBUS TUBEROSUS. *Heath Peafeling*.—With. III. 631.—Curtis.—P. April, May.

Garn Dingle, and woods in that neighbourhood, very common.

LATHYRUS SYLVESTRIS. *Wild Lathyrus*.—With. III. 634.—Ger. 1229.1.—P. July, Aug.

Woods and hedges near Conwy.

LATHYRUS LATIFOLIUS. *Broad-Leaved-Vetchling*. With. III. 634.—Mart. 8.—P. July, Aug.

Near Gyffin Mill, half a mile from Conwy.

LATHYRUS PALUSTRIS. *Marsh Vetchling*.—With. III. 635.—Eng. Bot. 169.—P. July, Aug.

Moist pastures near Beddgelert.

VICIA SYLVATICA. *Wood Vetch*.—With. III. 635.—Eng. Bot. 79.—P. July, Aug.

On the S. W. side of Garreg Wen rocks, close to the wall that divides the Garn Demesne, from that of Galltfaynan.—In the wood below Pont yr Allt goch, near St. Asaph;—and in Lord Bulkeley's woods, near Beaumaris, Anglesea.

ORNITHOPUS PERPUSILLUS. *Common Bird's-foot*.—With. III. 640.—Eng. Bot. 369.—A. May—Sept.

Dry places, midway between Pont y Gwyddel, and Bettws Abergely, Denbighshire.—S. E. end of Moel y Gaer, and rocks above Llanyfydd, Denbighshire.

ASTRAGALUS HYPOGLOTTIS. *Purple Mountain Milkwort*.—With. III. 643.—Eng. Bot. 274.—P. June, July.

On the top of Tuthill, behind the Hotel, Caernarvon?—Banks by the road side, near Harlech.—Near Caergurle Castle, Flintshire.

ASTRAGALUS GLYCYPHYLLOS. *Wild Liquorice.*—With. III. 643.—Eng. Bot. 203.—P. June, July.
Hills about Yspytty, Denbighshire.

TRIFOLIUM MELILOTUS OFFICINALIS. *Common Melilot.*—With. III. 645.—Mart. 72.—A. or B. June, July.

On the north side of the turnpike road, on Saltney, near Chester, at the extreme boundary of the county of Flint.

TRIFOLIUM GLOMERATUM. *Round-Headed Trefoil.*
With. III. 648.—Curtis, 227.—A. May, June.

On the hill in the front of Garn House, and on Henllan Hill, Denbighshire.

TRIFOLIUM ARVENSE. *Hares-Foot Trefoil.*—With. III. 649.—Curtis.—A. July, Aug.

Crest near Denbigh, and not uncommon in other places of that neighbourhood.

TRIFOLIUM FRAGIFERUM. *Strawberry Trefoil.*—With. III. 654.—Curtis.—P. Aug.

In most of the pastures adjoining to the Sea coast, about Ty newydd, and Prestatyn, near Rhyddlan, Flintshire.

CLASS XVII.

POLYADELPHIA.—POLYANDRIA.

HYPERICUM ANDROSOEUM. *Tutsan.*—With. III. 663.—Curtis, 265.—P. July—Sept.

In a hedge near the Menai, between Caernarvon, and Llanfair Iscaer.—Amongst the rocks at the cataract, Rhaiadr dû, near Maenturog, Merionethshire.

HYPERICUM QUADRANGULUM. *Quadrangular St. John's-Wort.*—With. III. 663.—Eng. Bot. 370.—P. July.

In Maes y Porth woods, near Newborough, Anglesea.

HYPERICUM DUBIUN. *Imperforate St. John's-wort.*—With. III. 664.—Eng. Bot. 296.—P. July, Aug.

Hedges near Beddgelert.

HYPERICUM HUMIFUSUM. *Trailing St. John's-wort.*—With. III. 665.—Curtis, 162.—P. July.

Dry bank sides about Caernarvon, not uncommon.

HYPERICUM ELODES. *Marsh St. John's-wort.*—With. III. 665.—Eng. Bot. 109.—P. July.

Bogs on the mountains betwixt Caernarvon, and Llanberis.—Swampy places in Anglesea.

HYPERICUM MONTANUM. *Mountain St. John's-wort.*—With. III. 666.—Eng. Bot. 371.—P. July.

Thickets in mountainous situations, near Penmaen Mawr, Caernarvonshire:—On Bwrdd Arthur, above Llannonna, near Beaumaris, Anglesea.

HYPERICUM HIRSUTUM. *Hairy St. John's-wort.*—With. III. 666.—Curtis, 182.—P. June, July.

In a wood below Garn Coppice, near Denbigh, and in several other places in that neighbourhood.

HYPERICUM PULEHRUM. *Upright St. John's-wort.*—With. III. 667.—Curtis.—P. June, July.

Heaths and thickets in exposed situations, between Caernarvon, and Llanberis;

CLASS XVIII.

SYNGENESIA.--POLYGAMIA-AEQLALIS.

HIERACIUM ALPINUM. Mountain Hawkweed.—

With. III. 683.—Lightf. 18, at p. 484.—Ray 6. 2.
—P. July, Aug.

Rocks near Llyn y Cwn, and on Glyder and Trigfylchau rocks, near Llanberis.

HIERACIUM TARAXACI.—With. III. 684.—*Hedypnois Autumnale Taraxaci*.—Huds. 431.—P. July.

Moist places near Llyn y Cwn.

Mr. Griffith is of opinion, that this plant is nothing more than a variety of *Leontodon Autumnale*, With. III. 680.—He compared his specimens taken from the shore of Llyn y Cwn, with those of Dr. Withering, sent him from abroad, which exactly agreed.—He had however, the precaution to take one of the roots, which upon cultivation, became much changed.—The stalk which had hitherto been simple, became much branched, and the calyx lost nearly all its woolliness, whilst the leaves remained the same.—Under these circumstances it cannot well be considered as a distinct species.

HIERACIUM MURORUM. Golden Lungwort.—With. III. 686.—Ger. 304.1.—P. July.

On rocks in Caernarvonshire, not uncommon.—Walls of Castell Dinas Brân.

HIERACIUM SYLVATICUM. With. III. 687.—*H. Murorum*, 8.—Huds. 345.—Ger. 304.2.—P. Aug.
On the side of Llyn y Cwn.

CICHORIUM INTYBUS. *Endive*.—With. III. 693.—

Eng. Bot. 539.—B. July, Aug.

Fields near the village of Llandidno, not far from Conwy, Caernarvonshire.

SERRATULA TINCTORIA. *Common Saw-wort*.—

With. III. 695.—Eng. Bot. 58.—P. July.

Moist Meadows near Beddgelert, common.

SERRATULA ALPINA. *Alpine Saw-wort*.—With. III.

696.—Eng. Bot. 599.—P. Aug. Sept.

On the highest rocks of Clogwyn y Garnedd, very near the summit of Snowdon.

CARDUUS TENUIFLORUS. *Slender-flowered Thistle*.

—With. III. 698.—Eng. Bot. 412.—P. July, Aug.

Dry banks near Caernarvon Castle.

CARDUUS MARIANUS. *Milk Thistle*.—With. III.

700.—Curt. 148.—A. Aug.

About Diferth Castle, near Rhyddlan;—and Caergurle Castle, near Mold, Flintshire.

CARDUUS HETEROPHYLLUS. *Melancholy Thistle*.—

Eng. Bot. 675 —*C. Helenoides*.—With. III. 702.—

Huds. 352.—P. June—Aug.

In the ascent from Llanberis, to Glyder.

SANTOLINA MARITIMA. *Sea Cudweed*.—With. III.

707.—Eng. Bot. 141.—P. Aug. Sept.

Plentifully on the sandy sea shore near Abernai Ferry, in Anglesea.

SYNGENESIA.—POLIGAMIA-SUPERFLUA.

ARTÉMISIA MARITIMA. *Sea Wormwood*.—With.

III. 709.—Woodv. 123.—P. Aug.

On the S. W. coast of Anglesea.

GNAPHA-

GNAPHALIUM DIOICUM. *Caltsfoot.*—With. III. 713.
Eng. Bot. 267.—P. May, June.

On rocks in the upper part of the Cleft Tull dû, above Llyn Idwel.

GNAPHALIUM RECTUM. *Upright Cudweed.*—With. III. 713.—Eng. Bot. 124.—P. Aug.

On Windy Bank Hill, near Denbigh;—and on Cadair Idris.

CONYZA SQUARROSA. *Great Fleabane.*—With. III. 717.—Ger. 192.—B. July, Aug.

Near the ruins of Basingwerk Abbey.—On Diferth Castle hill.—Sides of the road betwixt Caernarvon, and Seiont bridge.—Near the houses at Moel y Don Ferry, Anglesea.

ERIGERON ACRE. *Blue Fleabane.*—With. III. 719.—Curtis.—B. July—Sept.

Amongst the ruins of Denbigh Castle.—Meadow on Ruthin Castle,—Betwixt Rhuddgaer, and Llanddwyn, Anglesea.

SENECIO VISCOUS. *Clammy Groundsel.*—With. III. 722.—Eng. Bot. 32.—A. Aug.—Dec.

On the shore of Bala Lake.

SENECIO SYLVATICUS. *Bushy Groundsel.*—With. III. 723.—Ger. 278.2.—A. July.

Bank sides near Pont Aberglašllyn, Merionethshire.

SENECIO TENUIFOLIUS. *Hoary Groundsel.*—With. III. 723.—Eng. Bot. 574.—*S. Erucifolius.*—Huds. 366.—P. Aug.

In the wood below Garn Coppice, near Denbigh.—Between Henllan, and Holywell, by the road side, midway from Llanerch Bridge, and Demeirchion.

ASTER TRIPOLIUM. *Sea Starwort.*—With. III. 726.—Eng. Bot. 87.—P. Aug. Sept.

In a salt water ditch near Rhyddian, by the road side leading from thence to St. Asaph.—Marshy coast, near Dulas Bay, Anglesea.

SOLIDAGO CAMBRICA. *Welsh Goldenrod.*—With. III. 728.—P. July.

Mountains near Llanberis;—On Glyder; and about Llyn y Cwn.

INULA HELENIUM. *Common Elecampane.*—With. III. 730.—Woodv. 108.—P. July, Aug.

Moist meadows betwixt St. Asaph, and Denbigh.

INULA CRITHMOIDES. *Golden Samphire.*—With. III. 732.—Eng. Bot. 68.—P. Aug.

Salt marshes near Llanddwyn, Anglesea.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SEGETUM. *Corn Marigold.*—With. III. 735.—Eng. Bot. 540.—A. June, Oct.

Cornfields, much too abundantly.

ANTHEMIS NOBILIS. *Common Chamomile.*—With. III. 739.—Woodv. 103.—P. Aug. Sept.

In a field near Trefriw House, not far from Llanfaelog, Anglesea.—Harlech marsh, plentifully.

CLASS

CLASS XIX.

GYNANDRIA.—DIANDRIA.

ORCHIS BIFOLIA. *Butterfly Orchis.*—With. II. 21.
—Eng. Bot. 22.—P. June.

Moist ground near Bala, Merionethshire.

ORCHIS PYRAMIDALIS. *Late-flowering Orchis.*—
With. II. 23.—Eng. Bot. 110.—P. June, July.
Gloddaeth wood near Conwy.

ORCHIS CONOPSEA. *Red-handed Orchis.*—With. II.
28.—Eng. Bot. 10.—P. June.

In a small bog S. of Mr. Lloyd's new garden, at Wygfair,
near St. Asaph.

SATYRIUM VIRIDE. *Frog Satyrion.*—With. II. 30.
Eng. Bot. 94.—P. June—Aug.

Fields between the house of Frôn, and the upper wood,
in the parish of Mold, in Flintshire.

SATYRIUM ALBIDUM. *White Satyrion.*—With. II.
31.—Eng. Bot. 505.—P. June; July.

Moist meadows near Lord Penrhyn's Slate Quarries,
betwixt Bangor, and Capel Curig, Caernarvonshire,

OPHRYS SPIRALIS. *Triple Trayblade.*—With. II.
33.—Eng. Bot. 541.—P. Aug.—Oct.

Old pastures of Caernarvonshire, and Anglesea.

OPHRYS OVATA. *Common Trayblade.*—With. II. 34.
—Curtis. 177.—P. May—July.

Maes y Porth wood, near Newborough, Anglesea.

SERAPIAS CATIFOLIA. *Common Helleborine.*—With.
II. 40.—Eng. Bot. 269.—P. July, Aug.

Road

Road side from Henllan, to Llansannan, near Pen Porchell, two miles from the former place.

SERAPIAS PALUSTRIS. *Marsh Helleborine*.—Eng. Bot. 270.—S. *Longifolia*.—With. II. 41.—P. July, Aug.

Marshy meadows in Caernarvonshire, and Anglesea.

CLASS XX.

MONOECIA.—MONANDRIA.

ZANNICHELLIA PALUSTRIS. *Horned Pond-weed*.—With. II. 6.—A. June, July.

In many of the rivers of Caernarvonshire, and Anglesea.

MONOECIA.—DIANDRIA.

LEMNA GIBBA. *Gibbon's Duck's-meat*.—With. II. 44.—A. July, Aug.

Ditches on the north west side of Rhyd Marsh, near Rhyddlan.

MONOECIA.—TRIANDRIA.

SPARGANIUM NATANS. *Floating Burweed*.—With. II. 112.—Eng. Bot. 273.—P. July,

In the lakes near Llanberis;—and Llyn Ogwen, betwixt Bangor, and Capel Curig.

CAREX DIOICA. *Small Seg*.—With. II. 86.—Eng. Bot. 543.—P. June, July.

In a bog at the upper end of Llyn Idwel, Caernarvonshire.

CAREX

CAREX PULICARIS. *Flea Seg.*—With. II. 86.—P. June.

At the bottom of a field called Gerddi, opposite to Garregwen rocks, near Garn.

CAREX ARENARIA. *Sea Seg.*—With. II. 90.—Plate XX.—P. June.

Sandy beach near Prestatyn, Flintshire, and Conwy marsh, Caernarvonshire.

CAREX INTERMEDIA. *Soft Seg.*—With. II. 91.—P. May, June.

Moist meadows between Pwll y Gorsog, and the sea, in the parish of Rhyddlan.

CAREX PENDULA. *Pendulous Seg.*—With. II. 96.—Curt, 180.—P. May, June.

Near the rivulet on the west side of Garreg Wen rocks, in the parish of Henllan, Denbighshire.

CAREX STRIGOSA. *Loose Seg.*—With. II. 96.—Linn, Tran. II. 20. 4.—P. April, May.

Garn Dingle in a wet spot, near the bottom of the Glade,

CAREX FLAVA. *Yellow Seg.*—Variety, 2.—With. II. 99.—P. June, July.

On the borders of Llyn Idwel, near Llanberis.

CAREX DISTANS. *Loose Seg.*—With. II. 100.—P. May, June.

Heaths, Llanyfudd mountain, Denbighshire.—Buckley mountain, Flintshire.

CAREX ATRATA. *Black Seg.*—With. II. 105.—P. June—Aug.

Mountains about Llanberis, plentifully.

CAREX PILULIFERA. *Pill-bearing Seg.*—With. II.
105.—P. April—June.

On a dry bank, facing Llanberis village, on the ascent towards Llyn y Cwn.

CAREX RIGIDA.—With. II. 106.—Linn. Tran. 22.
10.—P. April, May.

On Crib y Ddescil, near Llanberis.

CAREX AMPULLACEA. *Beaked Seg.*—With. II. 110.
—*C. Vesicaria*.—Huds.—P. May—July.
Llyn Idwel, near Llanberis.

MONOECIA.—TETRANDIA.

LITTORELLA LACUSTRIS. *Plantain Shoreweed*.—
With. II. 194.—Eng. Bot. 468.—P. June—Aug.
On the bank at the south end of Bala Lake.

MONOECIA.—POLYANDRIA.

POTERIUM SANGUISORBA.—*Upland Burnet*.—With.
II. 493.—Curtis.—P. April, May.
Bank sides near Beaumaris, Anglesea.—Diferth Castle-
hill, Flintshire.

CLASS XXI.

DISECIA.—DIANDRIA.

SALIX HERBACEA. *Herbaceous Willow*.—With. II.
48.—S. July.

On the highest rocks of Snowdon.

DIOECIA.—TRIANDRIA.

EMPETRUM INGRUM. *Crake-berries.*—With. II. 176.

Eng. Bot. 526.—S. April, May.

Mountainous moors of Caernarvonshire and Merionethshire, plentifully.

DIOECIA.—TETRANDIA.

VISCUM ALBUM. *White Mistletoe.*—With. II. 203.—

Woodv. 270.—S. May.

On apple trees in many places between Chirk and Llangollen, Denbighshire.—In Broughton village, Flintshire.

MYRICA GALE. *Sweet Gale.*—With. II. 208.—Eng.

Bot. 562.—S. May.

Bogs, common.

DIOECIA.—OCTANDRIA.

RHODIOLA ROSEA. *Yellow Rose-wort.*—With. II.

389.—Eng. Bot. 508.—P. June, July.

Rocks about Tull Dû, above Cwm Idwel.—On Craig y Cae, Cader Idris.

MONOECIA.—MONADELPHIA.

JUNIPERUS COMMUNIS. *Common Juniper Tree.*—

With. III. 599.—Woodv. 95.—S. May.

Llysfaen rocks, in the county of Caernarvon.

Variety 2. *Mountain Dwarf Juniper.*—Ger. 1372. 3.

Rocks near Llyn y Cwm, above Llanberis.

CLASS XXII.

POLYGAMIA.—MONOECIA.

ATRIPLEX PORTULACOIDES. *Sea Purslane.*—With. II. 274.—Eng. Bot. 261.—S. July, Aug.
Rocks above the sea on the south-west coast of Anglesea.

ATRIPLEX LACINIATA. *Frosted Orache.*—With. II. 274.—Eng. Bot. 165.—A. July, Aug.
Sea coast on the S. W. of Anglesea.

ATRIPLEX LITTORALIS. *Grazed Orache.*—With. II. 275.—A. Aug.
South-west coast of Anglesea.

CLASS XXIII.

CRYPTOGAMIA.—MISCELLANÆ.

LYCOPODIUM CLAVATUM. *Common Club-Moss.*—With. III. 756.—Eng. Bot. 224.—P. July, Aug.
Dry places on the Caernarvonshire and Merionethshire mountains, not uncommon.

LYCOPODIUM SELAGINOIDES. *Prickly Club-Moss.*—With. III. 757.—P. June—Sept.
Higher parts of the mountains about Llanberis, common.

LYCOPODIUM INUNDATUM. *Marsh Club-Moss.*—With. III. 758.—Eng. Bot. 233.—June—Sept.
Moist heaths and turf-y bogs near Capel Curig, Caernarvonshire.

Lyc-

LYCOPODIUM SELAGO. *Fir-leaved Club-Moss*—With.
III. 758.—Eng. Bot. 233.—P. April—Oct.

Moist places on nearly all the mountains about Llanberis.
—On Snowdon and Cader Idris.

LYCOPODIUM ANNOTINUM. *Welsh Club-Moss*—With.
III. 759.—June—Sept.

“ I found this plant in great abundance, six years ago, near
Llyn y Cwn, intermingled with *Juniperus Com.* and,
although I have sought for it every summer since, in the
same place, I have not met with a single specimen.”

MR. GRIFFITH.

LYCOPODIUM ALPINUM. *Alpine Club-Moss*.—With.
III. 759.—Eng. Bot. 234.—P. July—Oct.
Mountains of Caernarvonshire, common.

PILULARIA GLOBULIFERA. *Pillwort*.—With. III.
759.—Eng. Bot. 521.—P. June—Sept.

In wet places about two miles from Mold, on the north
side of the Chester road, near Offa's Dyke.

ISOETES LACUSTRIS. *Quillwort*.—With. III. 760.—
Bolt. 41.—P. May—Sept.

In Llyn y Cwn and Ffynnon Frech, near Llanberis;—
in the latter pool, growing along with *Subularia Aquatica*, in abundance.

CRYPTOGAMIA.—FILICES.

OPHIOGLOSSUM VULGATUM. *Common Adder's Tongue*.
With. III. 761.—Eng. Bot. 108.—P. May, June,
Moist places in Maes y Porth Wood, Anglesea.

Os-

OSMUNDA LUNARIA. *Common Moonwort*.—With. III. 762.—Eng. Bot. 318.—P. May—July.
Old pastures in Anglesea.

OSMUNDA REGALIS. *Flowering Fern*.—With. III. 763.—Eng. Bot. 209.—P. June—Aug.
Watery places about Pont Aberglaslyn, near Beddgelert.
—Pond sides in Anglesea.

ACROSTICUM SEPTENTRIONALE. *Forked Maiden-hair*.
—With. III. 764.—Bolt. 8.—P. July.
In fissures of the rocks, near the summit of Carnedd Llewelyn, a high mountain, not far from Nant Francon, betwixt Bangor and Capel Curig.

PTERIS CRISPA. *Stone Fern*.—With. III. 764.—Bolt. 7.—*Osmunda Crispa*.—Huds. 450.—P. Aug. Sept.
High rocks.—On Glyder;—Snowdon;—Cader Idris, &c.

BLECHNUM SPICANT. *Rough Spleenwort*.—With. III. 765.—Bolt. 6.—*Osmunda Spicant*.—Huds. 450.
P. July—Sept.

Moist heaths between Caernarvon and Llanberis.

ASPLENIUM SCOLOPENDRIUM. *Hart's Tongue*.—With. III. 766.—Bolt. 11.—P.—Aug. Sept.

In moist shady places.—Conwy Castle.—Under the rocks, amongst the bushes by the river side, near Caernarvon Castle.

Variety 2.—Leaves curled, and jagged at the edge.

Near a petrifying spring, by the side of a rivulet, at the bottom of Garn Dingle, near Denbigh.

ASPLENIUM CETERACH. *Common Spleenwort*.—With. III. 767.—Bolt. 12.—P. May—Oct.

Cliffs

Clefts of moist rocks on the N. W. coasts of Caernarvonshire and Anglesea.

ASPLENIUM TRICHOMNES. *Common Maiden-hair.*—

With. III.—Eng. Bot. 576.—Bolt. 13.—P. May—Oct.

Old walls, rocks, and shady places, common.

ASPLENIUM VIRIDE. *Green-ribbed Spleenwort.*—

With. III. 768.—Bolt. 14.—P. June—Sept.

Moist rocks about Tull Dû, above Llyn Idwel;—and on Clogwyn du'r Arddu.

ASPLENIUM MARINUM. *Sea Spleenwort.*—With. III.

769.—Eng. Bot. 392.—Bolt. 15.—P. June—Sept.

Rocks near the sea in Llanddwyn, near Abermenai, Anglesea; and in Priestholme island, near Beaumaris.

ASPLENIUM RUTA MURARIA. *White Maiden-hair.*

—With. III. 769.—Eng. Bot. 150.—Bolt. 16.—P. June—Oct.

On old walls, not uncommon.

ASPLENIUM ADIANTUM NIGRUM. *Black Maiden-hair.*

—With. III. 770.—Bolt. 17.—P. April—Oct.

Walls and shady places about Caernarvon, very luxuriantly.

POLYPODIUM VULGARE.—Var. **CAMBRICUM.** *Welsh Polypody.*—With. III. 773.—P. June—Oct.

Near Gloddaeth, Caernarvonshire.

POLYPODIUM LONCHITIS. *Great Spleenwort.*—With.

III. 774.—P. May—Sept.

Clefts of rocks in the higher parts of Clogwyn y Gannedd.

Not-

Notwithstanding the great resemblance that there is betwixt this plant, and those of *Polypodium Aculeatum*, in a young state; the full grown specimens, some of them near half a yard long, in complete fructification, with every appearance of old and tough plants, that I have gathered amongst these high rocks, fully assure me that it must be a distinct species. W. B.

POLYPODIUM ILVENSE.—With. III. 778.—*A. Alpinum*.—Bolt. 42.—P. July—Sept.

Near the top of Clogwyn y Garnedd.

POLYPODIUM ARVONICUM.—With. III. 774.—*Acrosticum Ilvense*.—Huds. 451.—Bolt. 9?—P. July—Sept.

On a moist black rock, almost at the top of Clogwyn y Garnedd, facing the north-west, directly above the lower lake.

POLYPODIUM PHEGOPTERIS. *Wood Polypody*.—With. III. 775.—Bolt. 20.—P. June—Oct.

Clefts of moist rocks about Tull Dû.

POLYPODIUM OREOPTERIS. *Heath Polypody*.—With. III. 775.—*P. Thelypteris*.—Bolt. 22.—Huds. 457.—July—Oct.

Heaths between Caernarvon and Llanberis, plentifully.

POLYPODIUM THELYPTERIS. *Marsh Polypody*.—With. III. 776.—*Acrosticum Thelypteris*.—Bolt. 43.—P. July—Oct.

In a moist dell, at the foot of Snowdon, near Llanberis.

POLYPODIUM ACULEATUM. *Prickly Polypody*.—With. III. 777.—Bolt. 26.—P. June—Oct.

Amongst the bushes on the rocks near Caernarvon Castle.

POLY-

POLYPODIUM FILIX-FŒMINA. *Female Polypody.*—

With. III. 778.—Bolt. 25.—P. June—Sept.

Lanes near Caernarvon.

POLYPODIUM CRISTATUM. *Crested Polypody.*—With.

III. 778.—Bolt. 23.—P. June—Sept.

Shady places in Caernarvonshire, not uncommon.

POLYPODIUM RHÆTICUM. *Stone Polypody.*—With.

III. 780.—Bolt. 45.—P. June—Sept.

Near the top of Glyder, on the side that hangs over Llyn Ogwen rocks, about Ffynnon Velen, near Llanberis.

CYATHEA FRAGILE. *Cup-Fern.*—Eng. Bot.—*Poly-*

podium Fragile.—With. III. 779.—Huds. 459.—P.

June—Sept.

Mountains of Caernarvonshire;—about Tull Dû;—Clog-
wyn y Garnedd, &c.

CYATHEA INCISA. *Laciniated Cup-Fern.*—Eng. Bot.

163.—*Polypodium Tryfidum.*—With. III. 779.

Rocks in Cwm Idwel.

HYMENOPHYLLUM TUNBRIDGENSE. *Tunbridge Goldi-*

locks.—Eng. Bot. 162.—*Trichomanes Tunbridgense.*

—With. III. 781.—Huds. 461.—P. May—Oct.

In a shady dell, very near Llanberis.

Variety 2.—Fruitifications on naked fruitstalks.

Rocks near Dolbadarn Castle, in the vale of Llanberis.

END OF THE PLANTS.

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— near, in material errata are printed in small capitals,
— at 17.

— blue read chief.
— 5. For Marchle read Marchel.
Wat's dyl. Faſtina read Faſtina.
— 6. For Madroedd read Nadroedd.

16. 1. For oba read ova.
29. 7. For hence read thence.
35. 4. Leave out in the year 1709.
62. 9. For aures read areas.
65. 15. For was read were.

Page. Line.

103. 8. For PRESENT read ANCIENT.

105. 10. For FROM DENBIGH TO WHITCHURCH, read To DENBIGH FROM WHITCHURCH.

114. 17. For *Elwyd* read *Clwyd*.

129. 7. For *Gale* read *Yale*.

134. 5. For COUNTY read COUNTRY.

135. 4. For *curoes* read *curves*.

— 18. For *tolerable* read *tolerably*.

176. 21. For *gives* read *give*.

197. 20. For *manner* read *manners*.

230. 3. For *aerial* read *aerial*.

*235. 6. For *that filial* read *that even filial*.

— 19. For *broke* read *broken*.

*237. 4. Leave out the word *in*.

— 21. For *entire* read *entre*.

253. 24. For *CORDS* read *COWLS*.

281. The bridge of the Crŵth is wrong: the end, instead of being below, should have been above the hole.

283. In the second line of music, the first note should be on A, not C; and in the second direction, for *fourth* read *fifth*.

302. 8. For *our* read *one*.

323. 23. For *Tour* read *Town*, and leave out the comma.

331. 32. For the semicolon after *guineas* insert a *comma*; and, in the next line, for *do* read *does*.

2? 333. 22. BLUE LION is improper in Italics.

— 24. For CADER IDRIS.—4 MILES DISTANT, SEE, &c. read CADER IDRIS, 4 MILES DISTANT.—SEE, &c.

399. 3. For the (;) insert a (,), and in line 4, insert a period after inaccessible rocks.

414. 24. For *Flexandria* read *Hexandria*.

429. 25. For *Felices* read *Filices*.

* * The classes of the plants beginning at Decandria are all numbered wrong.—Some other errors in the catalogue, of less consequence, are not noticed.

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And his affections dark as Erebus:
Let no such man be trusted."

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